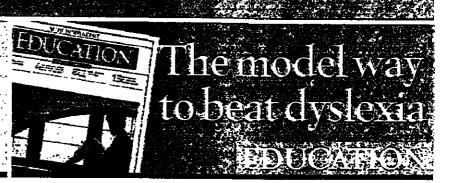


THURSDAY REVIEW FRONT



Huge deficit looms, warn City experts

GORDON BROWN'S generous three-year spending plan is a calculated gamble with the veconomy, an authoritative study warned last night as the Covernment came under fire over its £37bn increase in welfare state spending.

PricewaterhouseCoopers. the leading accountancy firm, warned that slower-than-expected economic growth could blow a hole in the Government's arithmetic.

The forecast came as it emerged that the rise in welfare state spending will dwarf the £21bn extra for the NHS and £19bn for education – challenging the Government over its election pledge to curb welfare spending.

The row over welfare opened up a central fault line between the Government and the Tories, which promises to be the key battleground for the next election. Tony Blair, defending the higher spending in angry Commons clashes with william Hague, challenged the Tory leader to say which schools or hospitals he would

close to cut public spending. creasing spending over the next three years by £27bn on the welfare state, with £14bn extra on pensions, £7bn on disability, £4bn on help to children, and £2bn on the unemployed and income support. The Tories said the figures showed an additional £10bn had been concealed in the Treasury figures

for working family tax credit. The row overshadowed the announcement by David Blun- kett. Secretary of State for Education, that the Government was bringing forward its pledge to reduce class sizes by 2000. It also threatens to cloud the announcement today of the extra cash for the NHS by Frank Dob- to the state pension, child benson. The Secretary of State for Health will say that exemptions to prescription charges will be protected, and that charges will be raised by no more than sisting that it included in-

BY COLIN BROWN and LEA PATERSON

the rate of inflation for the next

three years. Warning that Labour intends to make the issue part of its election strategy for a second term, Mr Blair told MPs: "The Conservative Party, having decided to oppose our plans now, ... will be going into the next general election saying that what we're doing for the schools and

hospitals in providing more -they would be providing less. That is their choice and they will have to live with it." The Tories used the figures

INSIDE

Blunkett's plans page 2 Parliament, page 8 Leadina article and David Agranavitch Review, page 3 Hamish McRae, Review, page 4

page 16

that the Government will be in- to claim that the Chancellor's spending plans were already beginning to unravel, just 24 hours after being announced in the Commons. It raises fears that the Government has run into trouble over its plans for reforming the welfare state, although the savings have not been included in the Chancellor's spending plans.

The Cabinet welfare reform committee, chaired by the Prime Minister, met last week to thrash out solutions to the intractable rise in housing benefit, but any prospect of action has been stalled until autumn at least. There are also delays in announcing radical reforms

efit, and disability benefit. The Prime Minister spent the day strongly defending the rise in spending on welfare, increases of more than £5 in income support for the poorest pensioners to be announced

PricewaterhouseCoopers said the Government's forecasts rely on a number of crucial assumptions about the development of the economy, including the likely rate of economic growth over the next three years.

If the economy slows faster than the Chancellor is expecting, the Government will receive less in tax receipts and will have to lay out more on social security benefits. PricewaterhouseCoopers has estimated that if economic growth stagnates next year, and only recovers slowly in 2000, the Government could be running an annual budget deficit of £20bn by 2001-02.

The Government, by contrast, is predicting that, in 2001-02, its books will balance and it will not have to borrow

to finance its spending plans. Rosemary Radcliffe, head of economics at PricewaterhouseCoopers, said: "The Chancellor is taking a calcuited gamble on a reasonably soft landing for the economy. If there is a hard landing, tax revenues will fall and cyclically sensitive social security spending and debt-interest payments will rise. This could blow something of a hole in the Chancel-

lor's fiscal arithmetic." PricewaterhouseCoopers also criticised the presentation of the new spending plans. John Hawksworth, head of macroeconomics, echoed concerns expressed by numerous MPs, saying: "The figures are not transparent. There are many unexplained differences in definition as well as accounting adjustments. It makes it difficult for people to see the true picture.

Despite these concerns, the FTSE-100 powered to a record close of 6151.5 yesterday, partly helped by positive sentiment in global stock markets.



Tony Blair addressing parents, pupils and staff during a visit vesterday to a nursery school in Camden, north London. New funding announced yesterday aims to double the number of nursery places for three-year-olds by 2002

Woman is pregnant by sperm of dead man

BEING DEAD is now no obstacle to fathering a child. A surgeon in Los Angeles has for the first time made a woman pregnant using sperm taken from a man who was already dead.

After sperm were extracted from Bruce Vernoff, a 35-yearold Californian who had died 24 hours earlier from a reaction to medication, samples were injected into an egg removed from Mr Vernoff's widow, Gaby. The fertilised egg was then im-

planted in Mrs Vernoff's womb. Although the extraction is not against any law in the United States, the fact that it has been done could inflame debates within the medical, legal and religious community over the rights of families to use genetic material of relatives who are unconscious or even dead. A survey there showed that there have been almost 50 requests to extract sperm from dead men in two years, and the numbers are growing rapidly.

In Britain, the procedure would be illegal, as Mr Vernoff had not been able to give "effective consent" for the use of his sperm before he died.

Three years after her husband died, in July 1995. Mrs Vernoff is now one month pregnant, although she has expressed a wish to avoid publicmonth of the pregnancy.

"In the UK, if someone hasnot be stored or used," said utive of the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority (HFEA), which licenses the storage and use of eggs and sperm. "It is all about respectBy Charles Arthur Technology Editor

ing people's genetical material." But Wallace Vernoff, Bruce's father and a lawyer, said before the pregnancy was confirmed, commented: "I would oppose legislation that would regulate a negative for everyone. What if a plan is made by a young couple and there is an untimely death? How do you get written consent other than perhaps

from those who knew him?" The sperm extraction was carried out by Dr Cappy Rothman, a urologist at the Century City Hospital in Los Angeles. He thinks the procedure has a positive effect. He told New Scientist magazine, "It gives people hope and lessens the pain of sud-

denly losing a loved one." Dr Rothman has already carried out the extraction for the families of about a dozen dead men. In these cases, the families simply wanted to keep the sperm as a memento, rather than to use it. But there are signs that families may try to extract sperm from dead children or relatives, to create the children or grandchildren they never had.

In the United Kingdom, arguments over the ethics of dead person found a focus in the ity until the end of the third case of Diane Blood, who wanted to become pregnant by sperm taken from her husband n't given their informed consent while he was in a coma. He died before they die, their sperm can- without regaining consciousness. The HFEA argued that as Suzanne McCarthy, chief exec- he had not given "informed consent" to that use. Mrs Blood should not be allowed to use the sperm. She won her case in the Appeal Court, and is now pregnant by her husband's sperm.

After 80 years, the Tsar's final journey

THIS morning, at 8am local time, the startlingly small oak coffins containing the bones of the Romanovs will be carried out of a building in Yekaterinburg where they have lain in transparent plastic containers for seven years, next door to the morgue, while politicians, scientists, clerics and their own relatives wrangled over their

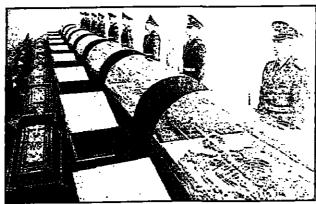
authenticity and fate. A military band will strike up as Nicholas, his wife, Alexandra, and daughters Olga, Tatiana and Anastasia are carried across the newly laid tarmac drive and loaded into a minivan, followed by coffins containing the family doctor, their cook, valet and chamber maid. These acid-charred royal

remnants will be driven to a faded Orthodox church where, as bells chime, they will be carried inside and placed by the altar. There will be two 15-minute litanies, separated by two hours, when the citizens of BY PHIL REEVES in Yekaterinburg

Yekaterinburg can pay respects to the family whom their forefathers killed. The remains will then be driven to the airport and flown to St Petersburg for reburial tomorrow. Although the events of 1918

will seem remote to most of those in the church, a reminder is close by. Over the road is Inatiev House, where the Romanovs were imprisoned for 78 days. At midnight on 16 July 1918, as the White army drew closer, the Romanovs' executioner, a Chekist commander, ordered the family into the basement. He told them be wanted a photograph to prove to Moscow they were alive, so they dutifully lined up. Minutes later they were shot, beaten and

bayoneted to death. It was perhaps the ugliest episode in the history of this particular part of the Urals,



The Romanov's remains awaiting reburial

until a few years ago a closed city because of its weapons plants. But you would not know it. The place will crack on as usual, concentrating on frantic renovations for next month's 275th anniversary.

Conversation after conversation vesterday revealed that Yekaterinburg is either indifferent to its past, or largely ig-

norant of it (the history of the Romanovs got short shrift in Soviet classrooms), or quietly, retentively uneasy about it. Some are relieved to see an end. Yet most seem oblivious to the enormity of the events that underpin today's proceedings.

Evidence of this lies at the site of the murders. It is a weed-choked vacant lot, surrounded by a makeshift wall of

concrete blocks. There is a rusting iron cross, painted white, on which roses. carnations and lilies have been entwined. But yesterday there was only a handful of flowers, no more.

Next to it stands a rickety wooden pavilion in front of a patch of mud. rutted by truck wheels. "You should have seen this place a couple of years ago," said Anatoly Gomsikov, a worn-looking 54-year-old with a large ginger-white beard who goes to the site every day to do what he can. "There used to be rubbish everywhere."

Trash is still easily found. hough not on the ground.

Fly posters bearing the red swastika-like symbol of the neo-fascist Russian National Unity party have been stuck on the concrete fence, in case visitors should need reminding of the ugly fractures within the

There are, it must be conceded, plans by the region to build a church on the site of Ipatiev house, which was demolished in 1977 by Boris Yeltsin, then the local party boss, acting on the orders of the head of the KGB, Yuri Andropov. But they have been around for years, and nothing

has happened yet. All there is to be found is a tiny wooden shrine next door. presided over by a middle-aged woman who simply calls herself "Lvubov" - Love. It is dedicated not to Nicholas and Alexandra, but to the former empress's elder sister. Elizabeth. Six months ago. Love explains, it was bombed. "There will always be people who are hostile to all this," she says quietly. As Russia's politicians and clerics scurry to distance themselves from today's events, the start of the Romanovs' tawdry journey to St Petersburg, Love





HOME NEWS

Two homeless managers may be charged with allowing their centre to be used for the drug supply

PAGE 5

MPs with free parking passes for the House of Commons may have to pay for the privilege

POLITICS

set up a credible interna tional criminal court is on the brink of collapse PAGE 12

Four years of effort to

FOREIGN NEWS

The FTSE 100 index shrugged off renewed rate rise fears to close at a record high

BUSINESS

Rangers have signed Andrei Kanchelskis, the ex-Manchester United winger, for £5.5m

SPORT



is proving spot-on.

PAGE 28

PAGE 8

PAGE 16

Drumcree Orangemen cleared

The Orange encampment at Drumcree was dramatically cleared, with doubts raised as to whether the marchers will be allowed back.

BBC pleads for licence fee rise

The BBC is to beg the Government for a hike in the licence fee despite announcing record returns from its commercial operations and revealing above inflation pay rises for its management.

Warrington baby to be buried

The anonymous corpse of a baby boy will be buried this month, 136 days after his still unsolved homicide ended a life which had lasted only hours.

Greenpeace takes on the oilmen The annual battle of the Atlantic between Greenpeace and the oil industry has taken off.

FOREIGN NEWS PAGES 12 - 15

UN urged to visit East Timor

Bishop Carlos Belo has urged a UN observer to postpone a visit to East Timor amid reports of rising tension in the Indonesian-ruled territory. Page 12

SA troops to quell Zulu clashes South Africa has flooded troops into KwaZulu-Natal province to quell an explosion of violence between rival parties ahead of next year's elections

US Right offers to 'reform' gays A coalition of more than a dozen conservative and religious organisations has launched a swingeing new campaign against homosexuality.

BUSINESS NEWS

Safeway and BP in petrol tie-up Safeway, the supermarket group, is extending its link-

up with BP to create a chain of 100 mini-supermarkets SIB boss's £288,000 pay-off

Andrew Winckler, the former chief executive of the

Securities and Investments Board, was given a golden goodbye of £288,000 when he left in January. Page 17

SPORTS NEWS PAGES 22 - 28

O'Grady takes the yellow jersey The Australian rider Stuart O'Grady took the yellow jersey of Tour de France leader after the fourth stage,

which was won by Jeroen Blijlevens of the Netherlands. El Guerroj aiming for new record Hicham El Guerrouj, the Moroccan middle-distance run-

which he set in Rome on Tuesday. Page 22 THURSDAY REVIEW

24-PAGE BROADSHEET SECTION

David Aaronovitch

ner. Delieves ne can improve on the

"Politicians are in business to do things that they think are necessary, not wander around the place listening."

Hamish McRae

"The trouble is that there is no direct competition between countries in public services. If British universities were bad by world standards the Japanese couldn't easily come in and take them over." Page 4

Bidisha

"People don't quite know what to do with female writers, so they're given to lowly female critics to deal with. When my first novel came out it was reviewed under 'women's fiction' or, even worse, 'black fiction'."

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21-22

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um record

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Leaders and com	ment 3-5	Listings
<u>Obituaries</u>	6.7	Games
Law Report	7	Radio, Satellite
Features	8-9	Concise crosswo
Arts, film	10-16	Today's TV

Cryptic crossword, section one, page 28

Robinson clear over Maxwell payment

By Fran Abrams POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

GEOFFREY Robinson, the Paymaster-General, escaped punishment last night after a committee of MPs ruled he committed only minor offences in failing to register two busi-

He faces a nervous wait for this month's reshuffle, though he is expected to remain a minister. Last night the Conservatives called on Tony Blair to sack him. The most damaging rebuke in a report from the Committee on Standards and Privileges was not for the Paymaster-General's parliamentary conduct but for his firm's accounting practices.

Hollis Industries, of which he was chairman, had its accounts qualified by its auditors because of poor record-keeping, and Mr Robinson said he never received a £200,000 payment which appeared on its books.

This "reflects poorly on the chairman, directors and others responsible for producing and approving Hollis's accounts and their accuracy," said the committee, which based its findings on a report from the Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards, Sir Gordon Downey.

But "on the basis of the evidence we have seen" it accepted Mr Robinson never received the £200,000. The MPs had been asked to report on whether Mr Robinson failed to register interests in five companies, four of which had links with Robert Maxwell.

registered a directorship of rectorships and has broken one company, Agie UK, but said none of the other com-plaints was justified Mr Robinson was director of Agie 1984-7, but did not register the interest until 1987. He apologised to Sir not." Gordon for the omission.

Sir Gordon also discovered

that Mr Robinson failed to register a directorship of Transfer Technology Limited, on which there had been no complaint.

Mr Robinson said he was led to believe he need not register the interest because he loaned the payment back to the company. The committee concluded: "Mr Robinson did not meet all the requirements of registration. His conduct as a Member of Parliament does not reach the threshold which would justify the imposition of any penalty by the House."

The Hollis administrators, Arthur Andersen, found no evidence of a £200,000 payment from Hollis but did find an invoice from another Maxwell company, Pergamon AGB, for £200,000 "paid to G Robinson."

It was not unusual for one Maxwell company to meet liabilities of another, Sir Gordon said. Although Mr Robinson offered to pay for further investigation, the committee decided not to press the issue.

Mr Robinson welcomed the committee's decision. "The Tories should now withdraw their allegation. I am pleased that, after months of investigation and scrutiny into matters that go back in some cases to 1987, the committee has concluded that there is no evidence to justify any further action by the committee or the House of Commons."

David Heathcoat Amory. shadow chief secretary to the treasury, said Mr Robinson had issued false accounts.

"Mr Robinson has therefore They found he should have failed to register two paid dicompany law. It is for the Prime Minister to decide whether Mr Robinson is fit to be a government minister and on the published evidence it is clear he is



All three-year-olds to have nursery places

MINISTERS AIM to give all By Judith Judd three-year-olds a nursery place if their parents wish it. David Blunkett, the Secretary of State for Education, said yesterday.

As a first step, he said three year-olds in nursery education would double by the year 2002, bringing the proportion with a place to two-thirds. There will be 190,000 extra free places.

The programme will be for all four-year-olds will backed by a £540m Sure Start available from September. scheme for the most disadvantaged young children. Health and education departments will co-ordinate childcare, health Review, page 3 | care, nursery education and

Education Editor

parenting classes. Mr Blunkett said: "All the evidence is that children learn most in their formative years, even before they start school. That is why it is crucial that where parents want nursery education ... there should be places." Places for all four-year-olds will be

Mr Blunkett gave details of how the £19bn for education announced in Tuesday's spending review would be spent. Against the Tories average of

YESTERDAY

BRITISH ISLES WEATHER

1.4 per cent. it would rise by an average of 5 per cent a year Over the three years, £560m would be spent to reduce class sizes for infants by providing 6,000 more teachers and 2,000 extra classrooms by 2001.

Higher education would get an extra £280m next year, a rise of 5.7 per cent and further education £255m, up 8.2 per cent, exactly what they asked for. David Willetts. the shadow

secretary of state for education.

said: "May I congratulate the

Secretary of State on ... a great hotchpotch." Education tabloid

Labour activists flood trusts

By Fran Abrams

SEVEN TIMES as many Labour activists have been appointed to NHS trusts since ministers moved to ensure better local representation, the Commissioner for Public Appointments said yesterday. Sir Leonard Peach said there

was no evidence of ministers trying to pack trust boards and there was no issue of patronage on behalf of individuals.

The change was caused by the decision of the Secretary of State for Health, Frank Dohson. to change the recruitment criteria to encourage more local people and patients to sit on trusts, he said.

During the last financial year 206 self-declared Labour activists were appointed to NHS trusts, compared to 28 Conservatives and 27 Liberal Democrats, Sir Leonard said in his annual report.

"There has been no patronage that we can see Looking from a distance I have perceived that the quality of some of the appointments has been very high," he said.

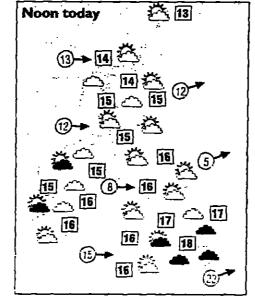
Sir Leonard investigated one complaint on Labour appointments to NHS boards in the North-east, where 11 out of 16 places went to party activists. but rejected it.

Of the new trust chairmen appointed, 22 were Labour compared to just eight Tories and three Liberal Democrats.

Sir Leonard said the new emphasis on getting local representation contrasted with the Conservative government's concentration on management skills. Some 29 per cent of chair posts went to women, up from 20 per cent in the previous year. and 2.2 per cent went to ethnic minority appointees, compared to none the year before.

The shadow Health Secretary, Ann Widdecombe,said: "Large numbers of experienced people with health, financial and business skills have been pushed aside to make way in many cases for a dubious collection of Labour activists and Tony's cronies."

BRITAIN TODAY



OUTLOOK The southern half of England and Wales will have outbreaks of ram at first. The rain

may linger into the early afternoon across south-east England, but other southern areas will turn brighter with sunny spells and a few showers. The northern half of England and Wales, and eastern Scotland, will have some supshing, but showers are possible. Western Scotland and Northern Ireland will have isolated showers for much of the day, but showery rain will spread from the west by evening

NEXT FEW DAYS

Tomorrow will be cool and showery in many parts of the country, and some ionger spells of rain are likely in northern and eastern Scotland for a time. The best of the sunny breaks are likely to be in southern and eastern England. On Finday right and Saturday, southern and central Britain will be cloudy with spells of rain. Scotland will be brighter but quite cool with some showers, heavy in the



PM 19.31 17.09

Avonmouth 12:48 11.7 -Hull (Abo) (COS) 11:45 8.2 00:30 Greenock 05:54 3.5 18:31 Dun Langhaire 05:01 4,0 17:52 AIR QUALITY

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AIR QUALITY

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ATLANTIC CHART, NOON TODAY

THE WORLD

Low F is slowly filling. Low J will run quickly eastwards as Low K mo

THE WORLD YESTERDAY Port Star Prague Reykjavin Rhodes Rhodes Rhodes Rome Salpharg Salp

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The Holocaust left her orphaned, penniless and alone. Now she'll get just £400 from the Nazis' looted gold

LORE ROBINSON'S world was torn apart by the Holocaust She lost her parents, her family fortune, her life as a girl from a prosperous Jewish family with a happy future ahead.

She was saved from death by the Kindertransport - the sederet trainloads of children rescued from Germany and taken

But left penniless in Britain, she had to build a new existence very different from the one her childhood had prepared her

Like many other survivors, she scrimped and saved, got married, bore a son and a daughter and became not the most prosperous of the victims, nor the most desperate.

Now 75 and living with her husband in south London, she is one of those who stand to benfit from the distribution of the I'm fund announced by Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, as a goodwill gesture at last December's conference on Nazi

After months of consultation between Jewish groups, details of how the money will be spent were announced yesterday. For people like Mrs Robinson, it will probably mean a payment of £400. Most of the money, it has been agreed. should go overseas.

Two-thirds is to go to providing medical care for needy Holocaust survivors in Ukraine, Belarus, Russia and Moldova the "double victims" who faced victimisation under Communism after the horrors of

The remaining third, around £330,000, will go to people in Britain. Although most recipients will be Jewish, both the Foreign Office and the Board of Deputies of British Jews yesterday stressed applications from other victims, such as

the Romanies, were welcome. Around 500 people in need have been identified already after Jewish welfare organisations circulated questionnaires. Criteria include the same baselines as apply for the receipt of

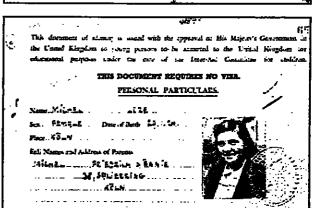
housing benefit. For many, the money will be some help. But as Ben Helfgott. chairman of the 45 Aid Society which helps survivors, said: "It is really symbolic. Nothing on earth can pay back what we

Yet there is genuine gratiwho feel Britain has taken the lead. Fourteen other countries pledged a total of \$57m to the fund set up by Mr Cook, although only Sweden and Poland have yet paid up.

Lord Janner, chairman of the Holocaust Educational Trust, said: "This distribution is a shining and worthy example to all nations. I am delighted that Britain is now the first contributor to start distribution from the fund to needy victims."

For people like Lore Robinson, if she makes a successful application, it will be only the second sum she has ever re-





Lore Robinson at home (left), and as a young girl with her father (top). Mrs Robinson shares some of the compensation being distributed from the fund set up by Robin Cook after the Nazi gold conference Peter Macdiarmid

her parents, her educatio life she had enjoyed.

In 1965, all those who were children under the Nazis in Germany received a small payment in lieu of their lost education. She cannot remember now, but thinks it was perhaps a few hundred pounds.

She received nothing for the loss of her parents who had believed they might be able to escape to a new life in America.

When Mrs Robinson left on the Kindertransport train, her tude from the British Jews parents nearly had their visas arranged. Her father, who had won the Iron Cross fighting for Germany in the First World War, had run his own factory and her mother had had family property that she had sold. They paid an enormous sum to receive their exit papers, but were then left to wait for two

days in Holland for their boat. Hitler invaded, their boxes of luggage were bombed in Rotterdam and they were despatched to concentration camps. Her mother died in 1945, her father survived a little longer, just in time to see his daughter once more before the

ceived for the borror of losing effect of the camps claimed

In England, Mrs Robinson had arrived in 1939 at the age of 15 "with a little case and 10

She was first taken in by a Jewish family in the East End of London. But they did not send her to school as promised and made her do the house-

Her brother, who had escaped on an earlier train and was living in Cambridge, asked the Christian organiser there to help his sister. After 14 months, she passed her matriculation. but with no money to fund further education, took the only career she could see open to her.

She became a nurse. "I would have gone to university or some sort of studying in Germany, but here I had to do the only thing I could do. Nursing meant a home and some pocket money and after

four years I had a qualification." She married Bernard Robinson, an architectural modelmaker who later became a civil servant, and had two children. At times, she was doing seven jobs in a week to cope.

Mrs Robinson, like many of her compatriots, the poorest of whom tend not to speak out. does not want to be seen to be complaining. "I've had quite a good life since. This country has

treated us very well," she said. "But we're not wealthy, I have to be careful." She has an old age pension and a small nursing pension. She was too young to benefit, like older German Jews did, from a German

state pension. Announcing the Government's help yesterday, Robin Cook said everyone had a responsibility to ensure that those who survived "the greatest crime of our times" did not lack the material support they needed in their remaining years.

Neville Nagler, director general of the Board of Deputies. agreed. "They are in the twilight of their lives. Many of them have suffered unimaginable hardships and horrors. Nothing can ever compensate them. But even a modest payment can provide some tangi ble benefit. It can also remind them that the world outside still cares and has not forgotten

his bones reburied, and was credited with hundreds of mir-

acles which he performed in

The long-range weather fore-

cast associated with Swithun

also fails to stand up to scruti-

ny. An analysis was published in

1894 calculating the average

number of rainy days in the 40

days following 15 July. After a

wet St Swithun's Day, there

gratitude.

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BY WILLIAM HARSTON

ITS METEOROLOGICALLY nonsense, ecclesiastically dubious and we even spell it wrong, but yesterday was St Swithin's Day Most parts of the country had at least a spot of drizzle, so the good superstitious folk of this land will therefore be expecting rain for the next 40 days. For according to the legend:

) St Swithin's Day, if thou dost

For forty days it will remain; St Swithin's Day, if thou be fair, For forty days 'twill rain

The tale dates back to 15 July 971, when the bones of St Swithum, bishop of Winchester, (the Dictionary of National Biography firmly castigates "Šwithin" as a misspelling)



Rainy day, 40 more to come ... or maybe not

were scheduled to be moved that his bones preferred to refrom an unmarked grave outside his church to a consecrated site within the walls of building. On that day, however, it poured with rain, and contimue to do so for the next 40 days, which was taken as a sign

main where they were.

That, however, seems to be a piece of 16th century romanticism at variance with contemporary accounts of the event. Back in the tenth century. Swithun was thought to

were 18.5 rainy days, while for a dry 15 July, the rainy score was slightly higher at 19.25. Whatever the statistics show. St Swithun did give Britain its own meteorological saint's day

to match those of St Medard 18 June) in France, St Godelieve 16 July: in Belgium and the Day of the Seven Sleepers (27 June) in Germany which carried a similar tradition of 40-day instant weather forecasts. And none of those work either.

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EFORESTATION.

RUC raids spell an end to Drumcree

THE ORANGE encampment at BY KIM SENGUPTA Drumcree was dramatically cleared yesterday, with doubts raised as to whether the marchers will be allowed back. The security forces acted after discovering "suspicious devices" during a search of the site, although senior Orangemen insisted they would return.

For the first time since the stand-off began 10 days ago, police moved into the Orange lines and arrested six people. A further 14 were also held elsewhere in connection with items discovered at the scene.

The fields around the besieged church were left deserted after hardliners were

The Royal Ulster Constabulary later displayed their find including implements for blast bombs, illegal fireworks which had been fired from mortars. A firearm, including spent ammunition, was also found along with crossbows and catapults.

"I would hope that the protest is over," said Brid Rodgers, the SDLP's Assembly member for the Portadown

"People recognise that the rule of law and order and the decision of the Parades Commission has been upheld and that has been welcomed."

The operation followed another night of violence in which officers had been attacked with petrol bombs, glass bombs and bricks. Sinn Fein leader Gerry Adams yesterday visited Drumcree to "show solidarity with the people of Garvaghy Road". He said the siege by the Orangemen was "outrageous".

Last night it was becoming increasingly apparent that the Orange protest had been confronted and faced down by the authorities. In a sign of the confidence now being felt by the government most of the extra 1,000 troops sent into Northern Ireland before the Drumcree

mainland bases. There were also indications yesterday that there was serious internal rifts within the Orange Order. Claims by Portadown Orangemen that the murderous arson attack which claimed the lives of the three young Quinn brothers was the result of "collusion" between security forces and paramilitaries met widespread

The RUC dismissed the al-



legations contemptuously and the Quinn family, who had buried the dead boys on Tuesday were said to be deeply

Support was gathering for the Rev William Bingham who had been vilified by hard liners for urging fellow Orangemen to abandon the stand-off at Drumcree following the weekend

The Rev Dr Warren Porter, Co Londonderry Grand Chaplain, condemned Joel Patton, leader of the Spirit of Drumcree Group, for barracking Rev Bingham on Monday. He said: "The interruption of his service of worship and the abuse of a young Minister of the Gospel by Joel Patton...was a blatant march will now return to their to mention the question of apmembership in 1979.

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Dr Porter added that this year's July 12 celebration had been totally overshadowed by the death of the three little Catholic boys. Many Orangemen had been broken-hearted.

A senior Protestant clergyman in Dublin accused the Orange Order of contributing to the deaths. The Very Rev John Paterson, the Dean of Dublin's Christ Church of Ireland Cathedral, who was brought up in Portadown said: "The three children died all because of a couple of hundred yards of

"Decent members of the Orange Order may not bear direct responsibility, and most will regret this tragedy. But their unyielding attitude and support they are receiving from offline thugs means that their hands are not clean."

One of the men being questioned about the murder of the three brothers was yesterday eleased without charge.

The officer in charge of the investigation Det Chief Supt Hamilton Houston stressed there was "absolutely no substance" to rumours that anyone being questioned over the murders had any connections with the family of the dead boys.

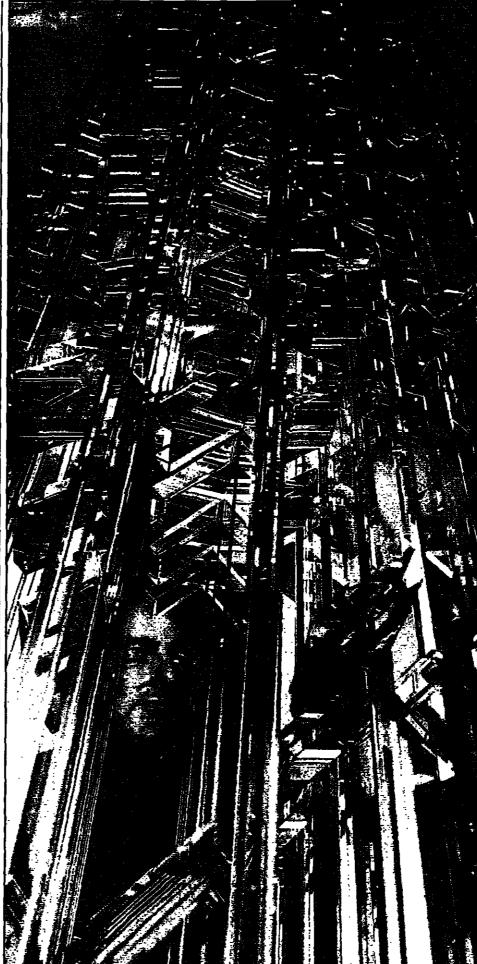
He added that "savage and sickening" sectarianism was the only motive being investigated for the murders.

In further surprising devel-opments it emerged that Ian Paisley, the leader of the Democratic Unionist Party, is sitting in committees of the New Assembly with Sinn Fein members who have IRA convictions.

Mr Paisley and his party colleagues Nigel Dodds and Gregory Campbell attended a Standing Orders Committee meeting with Sinn Fein's Francie Molloy, Conor Murphy who was jailed in 1982 for membership of the IRA's junior wing. breach of Orange Principles not and John Kelly convicted of IRA

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Artist Peter Aldridge yesterday inspecting his 3m-tall glass sculpture 'A Moment in Time', newly installed at the Victoria and Albert Museum in London Nicola Kurtz

Sandhurst cadet who collapsed on exercise dies

By ELISA CRAWFORD

A CADET at Sandhurst military academy who collapsed during an exercise two weeks ago died yesterday. A second man was in hospital after being taken ill during a similar exercise on

Tuesday. Graham Holmes, 23, died of multi-organ failure in the intensive care unit of Frimley Park Hospital, Frimley, Surrey. His mother was at his

He collapsed at the end of a seven-mile training run which he had completed with 35 other cadets on 30 June. An Army spokeswoman dis-

closed that Mr Holmes had suffered from heat exhaustion when he started his training. Major Gill Prowse, based at Aldershot, said: "He started in

September 1997 and was taken ill two or three weeks into his "He received medical treatment for heat exhaustion and he restarted his training in January this year. He then

completed his basic training by

Easter, took a holiday, and was

in the middle of his intermedi-

ate training." Maj Prowse said there had been no signs of a return of his medical problems.

The 800 trainee soldiers at the Royal Military Academy do the exercises in combat gear, carrying rucksacks loaded with equipment. Adrian Muir, 22, from

Kingston, Jamaica, who collapsed on Tuesday, was said yesterday to be in a stable condition at Frimley Park hospital. Major Iain Park-Weir, in

charge of protocol and public relations at Sandhurst, said that it was "very rare" for cadets to collapse during ex-

Speaking before Maj Prowse revealed Mr Holmes's previous difficulties, he added: "We are extremely upset by this and everyone is very sad. Graham was a very good cadet, who was Woolwich.

doing well and had no prob-lems. While this type of incident is rare, we take all proper medical precautions during exer-

ferent and we will have to wait for the outcome of the post mortem before knowing what the cause of death was.

These training exercises happen all the time and of course cadets are under pressure to complete the runs."

A spokesman for the Ministry of Defence said the training runs, or "marches" as they are known, would have been conducted by a physical train-ing instructor trained in first

The cadets carry water and make mandatory water stops, as well as drinking plenty of A support vehicle can be

summoned by the supervising spokesman said: "The Army has changed a lot in the last 30 years and it is no longer the case that instructors push peo. ple beyond their limits."

Officers were keenly await ng the results of a post mortem went wrong in Mr Holmes's

Cadets complete three terms of training, including junior, intermediate and senior. Mr Holmes had wanted to join the Royal Engineers. known as the Sappers. He was half way through his

year-long course, at the end of which he would have been made an officer. Officers and cadets at the college were said to be extremely upset by his death.

He was described as a "good

bloke and a good prospect". The academy, which gives initial training before officers in 1946 when the Royal Military College Sandhurst merged with the Royal Military Academy at

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New concerns over pesticide

CONTROLS ON the use of pesticides in food are being reviewed in response to fears that children are at greater risk than adults, the Government disclosed yesterday.

Lord Donoughue, agriculture spokesman, was responding at House of Lords question time to the Countess of Mar, who warned that children's immune systems and central nervous systems were not fully developed and "small doses apparently affect them very much more than they do an adult, on whom these doses are tested."

Lord Donoughue replied: 'We are aware of that. And at this moment the regulations in relation to children are in fact being reviewed."

For the Tories, Lord Swinfen asked: "Even if the residues in individual foods are at a safe level, is there evidence that there is a build-up of some residues in the human body that ultimately could be dan-

Lord Donoughue told him: "I don't know the answer to that. We have a number of studies under way, one in particular in Edinburgh from which we expect results next year."

The minister said tests had shown less than 1 per cent of produce showed signs of residues "at a level which we would consider of concern".

Lord Donoughue added; "There have been cases, especially in relation to carrots, say, and apples - especially back in the 1995-96 testing where there was a jump in the danger levels and we have taken action there to restrict the application and use. We did ban one pesticide."

Baroness Trumpington, 75, a former Tory agriculture minister, commented: "At my age, I am probably absolutely stuffed full of residues.

"Scaremongering can cause great damage to growers of ap-ples, for instance, who are very hard pressed at the present

Lord Donoughue replied: "If you are the product of the residues in you, they can only be a very good thing!"

Turkey tops list for holiday food bugs

ANYONE LOOKING to avoid than anywhere else. Propor-"Delhi-belly" on holiday this year should stay well clear of Turkey, as tourists are more likely to suffer upset stomachs there than at any other popular holiday destination, according to research published yesterday.

The study was conducted by Commercial Union, which analysed last year's travel insurance claims to pin-point disaster hotspots abroad. In Turkey, 1,200 people claimed for "gastric problems".

Spain remains the most popular destination for British holidaymakers and it is expected more overall claims from Spain ance more seriously."

tionally, tourists travelling to Spain are more likely have their flight delayed, lose their luggage or be pickpocketed.

France had the least number of claims in all categories, despite being the second most popular holiday destination for British tourists. lan Frater, a spokesman for

Commercial Union, said: "It is estimated that 29 million holidays will be taken this year ... [but] 2.9 million people will still jet off without any kind of insurance protection. We decided to map out the problem areas that seven million will fly out for holidaymakers to encourage there this year. Insurers receive them to take their travel insur-

IN BRIEF

Four remanded over London bomb plot

Four people were remanded in custody by magistrates in London yesterday in connection with last Friday's alleged bomb plot in London. Anthony Hyland, 25; Darren Mulholland, 19, of Dundalk, Co Louth; Elaine Moore, 21, of Hampstead, north-west London and Liam Grogan, 21 of Naas, Co Kildare, are charged with conspiracy to cause explosions. Mr Mulholland, Ms Moore and Ms Grogan are also charged with possession of explosive substances. **Premiership kick-off for Ulster**

Eamonn Holmes, the GMTV presenter, is hoping to start a

Premiership-quality football team in Northern Ireland. He told Talk Radio that he had spoken to Mo Mowlam, the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, and that the Government was "quite active" in the matter. "Wherever you are in the world you have heard of Sheffield and Oldham, but mention Belfast and all people think of is trouble," he said.

Five thousand jobs in London's internationally-important

Art market jobs under threat

art market are at risk under European proposals to introduce resale rights for artists when their work is sold, and it would cost the economy about £68m a year, Ian McCartney, a Trade and Industry minister, said.

£1m rejected for Moore trophies The former wife of Bobby Moore has rejected a £1 million

offer to keep his football trophies in Britain, including his 1966 World Cup winner's medal, the Football Museum said yesterday. Tina Moore says she wants £2 million, for her children's future. The football star died of cancer five years ago.

Ryder squashes Black Grape THE POP band, Black Grape, have called it a day, the group's

front man, Shaun Ryder, has announced.

The singer said he would carry on making records but told the music paper, Melody Maker, there will be no more records under group name and no live shows.

Churchill still saleroom favourite ITEMS ONCE belonging to Sir Winston Churchill proved to be the highlights at an auction of political memorabilia at Sotheby's yesterday - with two paintings by the wartime leader fetching £75,000 and £40,000.

Mr Simon Huddart

IN AN article headlined "Surgeon cancelled boy's operation over pay row" (13 March) we wrongly stated that a surgeon, Simon Huddart of University Hospital of Wales in Cardiff, had cancelled a hernia operation on a young child claiming he was not paid enough by the NHS, and that he had told the child's mother that he would perform the operation straight away if she paid privately. In fact it was the hospital authorities who took the decision to cancel the operation, and Mr Huddart, who had operated throughout the day, did not offer to carry it out privately. The hospital investigation into the incident totally exonerated Mr Huddart from these charges. We apologise to Mr Huddart for the distress and embarrassment caused.

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BBC report: With weak arts coverage, poor sitcoms and popular drama in crisis, governors Auntie told time to do much better THE BBC's end of term report rom list board of governor areas of popular drama, sitcon, cuter BY JANNE GIBSON Media Correspondent needs to attract more female popular drama in crisis, governors BY JANNE GIBSON Media Correspondent needs to attract more female popular drama in crisis, governors BY JANNE GIBSON Media Correspondent needs to attract more female popular drama in crisis, governors THE BBC's end of term report rom list board of governors BY JANNE GIBSON Media Correspondent needs to attract more female popular drama in crisis, governors THE BBC's end of term report rom list board of governors BY JANNE GIBSON Media Correspondent needs to attract more female largest audience. THE BBC's end of term report rom list board of governors BY JANNE GIBSON Media Correspondent needs to attract more female largest audience. THE BBC's end of term report rom list board of governors BY JANNE GIBSON Media Correspondent needs to attract more female largest audience. THE BBC's end of term report rom list board of governors BY JANNE GIBSON Media Correspondent needs to attract more female largest audience. THE BBC's end of term report rom list board of governors BY JANNE GIBSON Media Correspondent needs to attract more female largest audience. THE BBC's end of term report rom list board of governors BY JANNE GIBSON Media Correspondent needs to attract more female largest audience. THE BBC's end of term report rom list board of governors THE BBC's end of term report rom list board of governors THE BBC's end of term report rom list board of governors THE BBC's end of term report rom list board of governors THE BBC's end of term report rom list board of governors THE BBC's end of term report rom list board of governors THE BBC's end of term report rom list board of governors THE BBC's end of term report rom list board of governors THE BBC's end of term report rom list board of

such as Casualty, more new hit sitcoms and strengthen its entertainment shows.

The Director-general, Sir John Birt, said: "We have too few series like Casualty and we'd like more." Of sitcoms he said: "In the last 12 months, too few of our new comedies have heen successes

BBC director of television. Alan Yentob, conceded that the governors were right to demand better sitcoms, saying we need to work harder, but we do persist with things". Next year, the BBC will launch Dinner Ladies a new series written by Victoria Wood and Heartburn Hotel, a new sitcom from Only Fools and Horses creator, John Sullivan. There will also be a new sitcom on BBC2 from the writers of Channel 4 hit Father Ted.

Mr Yentob defended the BBC's drama, though admitted there are gaps. He said: "We need to work harder at returning series. A drama department which can deliver Jonathan Creek, Dalziel and Poscoe and EastEnders is not without its hits but we can do better.'

In radio, Sir John said that Radio 1, though competing well against its commercial rivals,

promises last year.

According to the governors, the BBC also 'needs to improve its commitment" to produce high-profile arts programmes. Mr Yentob explained that arts coverage had yet to recover from the axing of the long-running Late Show.

"We had quite a lot of big series planned and they take a long time to generate. The ambition, having removed The Late Show, was to bring that [arts] coverage into the heart of the schedule which we did try on BBC 2 but people didn't no-

The BBC governors also noted that the Corporation fell short of its commitment to represent all groups in society fairly and without reinforcing stereotypes.

The governors were referring to the episodes of East-Enders aired last September which showed a backwards Irish village where the people were regularly drunk, uncouth and dysfunctional.

The BBC also fell slightly short of the governors' targets for programmes produced outside London and the South East. Just over 30 per cent of programmes were made outside the capital, but the target



The Arts Problem

Since the demise of The Late Show (above) in 1995, the BBC has struggled to find new formats for arts programming. It feels that the "ironic young things" style of art shows have run their course; as the head of BBC2 said last year "when you deconstruct something it stays deconstructed". Since then it has tried one-off art shows and series mainly on BBC2 like American Visions and Sound on Film. Yet few have made an impact and now the BBC is returning to landmark series in the Civilisation vein. A major series on the Renaissance is planned and a history of the British theatre by Sir Richard Eyre.



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The Sit-com Problem

Two of the biggest sitcom hits of the Nineties, Men Behaving Badly and Absolutely Fabulous, came from the BBC but then the writers (Simon Nye and Jennifer Saunders) pulled the plug. Of nine new sitcoms launched last year, only two have so far been given a second series: BBC2's How Do You Want Me? and BBC1's Kiss Me Kate. A Prince Among Men (above) was pulled from its slot mid-run and moved to Sunday nights. Blooming Marvellous, featuring the can't miss pairing of former Coronation Street star Sarah Lancashire and Casualty doctor Clive Mantle, also failed to draw in viewers.



THE DRAMA PROBLEM

The dream drama show is Casualty, above, a peak-time, 50minute drama series that will bring in 10 million-viewers and more every week. Returning dramas, as the genre is known, tend to run during the peak autumn and winter viewing seasons and have been successfully used by ITV with shows like Heartbeat and London's Burning which come back year after year. BBC drama, well respected for its specials, serials and costume dramas, has found the popular series more of a problem - particularly since losing key executives to ITV - and previous hits such as Dangerfield have now run their course.

Licence fee hike demanded despite record returns

THE BBC is to beg the Gov- By PAUL MCCANN ernment for a hike in the licence fee despite yesterday announcing record returns from its commercial operations and revealing above-inflation pay rises for its management.

The Corporation had an extra £6 put on the licence fee in April this year as part of a

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Media Editor

with the previous Government that runs through to 2002. That deal will see the licence fee rise above the politically sensitive barrier of £100 next April.

Now it hopes to go to the Labour administration and argue that the Corporation will five-year agreement struck be on a cycle of decline unless

it gets more money in the last two years of the five year deal. If if gets its way the licence fee to more than £110 by 2002.

The Director General, Sir John Birt, said at the publication of its annual report yesterday: "The first thing we have to do is agree a vision of the BBC that we want. Does Britain want a BBC that is a civilising force in the age of digital television?"

Sir Christopher Bland, chairman of the BBC governors, pledged a campaign to prove to the public that the fee is good value: "You have to compare what you get for £97.50 from the BBC, the two national stations. the five national radio stations, local radio, and compare it to the Sky package which costs £300 a year ... the licence fee is bloody good value."

However the BBC's first open accounts showed that its commercial division, BBC Worldwide, gave £75m in cash to the BBC last year, an increase of 42 per cent on the previous year. It sold £23m-worth of Tellytubby merchandise

The Corporation plans to argue to the Government that it will make £1bn in efficiencies

during the five years of the deal. yet its accounts also showed that the BBC spent \$25m on yet another management restructuring of itself last year. It also spent £65m on its non-programme making corporate centre. The corporate centre houses senior management,

as well as legal, policy and planning departments. Public sympathy for a li-

cence fee hike will also be un- ballot of its members on strike dermined by the disclosure of action to secure similar pay ina £34,000 pay rise for Sir John and £26,000 for Tony Hall, head of BBC News, taking their salaries to £390,000 and £223,000

Other senior managers also received above-inflation pay increases and in response the BBC's technician's union. Bectu, yesterday announced a

respectively.

The BBC is offering its staff four per cent. Gerry Morrissey. Bectu's broadcasting supervi-

sor, said: "It is hypocritical of the senior management to ask their staff to show restraint when they themselves are emulating the fatcats of private industry.

Homeless centre heads set to face drug charges

tre for the homeless are today expected to be charged with allowing their premises to be used for the supply of drugs.

Homeless charities said it was the first time such workers had been arrested by police and predicted that it would place all managers of hostels and homeless centres in an impossible

position. The two were arrested after a two-month undercover operation by Cambridgeshire police in which officers disguised themselves as homeless people and secretly filmed inside the

Ruth Wyner, 48, the director of the Winter Comfort homeless project, said that she was "shocked and very confused" to be arrested. She said she had been working with the homeless for 20 years and had never been arrested for any offence

TWO MANAGERS of a day cen- By IAN BURRELL Home Affairs Correspondent

> Mrs Wyner, who has two children, said: "It's a known fact that around half of the people who are homeless are injecting drugs. We try to stop people bringing drugs onto the premises but we don't have powers to

search people." Mrs Wyner claimed that the centre had a "stringent policy" on drugs and that anyone found using or supplying illegal drugs

was barred. Also arrested and on police bail was John Brock, 48, a former college lecturer who has Overstream House day centre for seven years.

He said that he was "devastated" by the police's handling of the matter and was "very anxious" for his family. The police operation, code

named Wythall, was aimed at in fighting drugs.

tackling the growing problem of the undercover filming, officers raided six addresses in the

was arrested and taken in for

week. Yesterday, Kate Head, of the said that Winter Comfort was one of 1,000 similar projects around Britain and that the sys-

"chaos" by the police action. She accused Cambridgeshire police of contradicting government policy on social exclusion which stresses that the police should work in co-operation with homeless agencies

"If directors of day centres heroin use in Cambridge. After are to be charged, then that has serious implications for prison governors and headteachers city last May and arrested four who are also in charge of men and two women. The six premises where drugs are were charged with supplying being supplied," she said.

Mike Goodman. of the drugs Five days later, Mrs Wyner charity Release, said: "Not only does this appear to be an enorquestioning before being re- mous waste of taxpayers' leased on police bail. Mr Brock money and a misuse of police was arrested the following resources but it runs entirely contrary to current thinking on how we should be responding National Homeless Alliance. to drug prevention and the needs of marginalised groups such as homeless people.

A spokeswoman for Cambeen project manager at the tem would be thrown into bridgeshire police confirmed that a file on the two homeless centre managers had been sent to the Crown Prosecution Service. She said the two currently remained on police bail and could not confirm that any decision had been taken to charge them.

McKenna plaintiff 'hears voices'

A MAN WHO CLAIMS hypnotist BY MIKE TAYLOR Paul McKenna turned him into a schizophrenic told a High Court judge today he was still hearing voices - more than combe in March 1994. Nine four years after taking part in one of the star's stage shows. Christopher Gates, 30, who is tient suffering from an acute suing Mr McKenna for £200,000 damages, said he would be on drugs for the rest of his life.

"If I stop taking the drugs, I realise I will be ill," he said. He told Mr Justice Toulson the "mumbling voices" came

for up to two hours a day on two or three days a week. Sometimes, when he was feeling ill, they came from Moses or Jesus or other people.

Mr Gates, a furniture polisher of Malvern Close, Downsuing over psychiatric injuries mand used by his karate inshow. But it was totally out of suing over psychiatric and structor - "it was just a character because he was such he claims to have suffered structor - "it was just a character because he was such

through being hypnotised at the Swan Theatre at High Wydays after the show, he was admitted to hospital as an in-paschizophrenic episode. His mental problems have continued, and he is now unemployed.

Mr McKenna denies negligence and contends Mr Gates's illness was not caused by being hypnotised.

Mr Gates said the theatre visit was a birthday treat arranged by his girlfriend Bev- compulsion, and I shot out of erley Gibbs, now the mother of my chair and went up on the to work, although he wanted to his two-month-old son. He never intended to volunteer to be hypnotised, but as soon as he ley, High Wycombe, Bucks, is heard the word "now" - a com-



Paul McKenna, accused

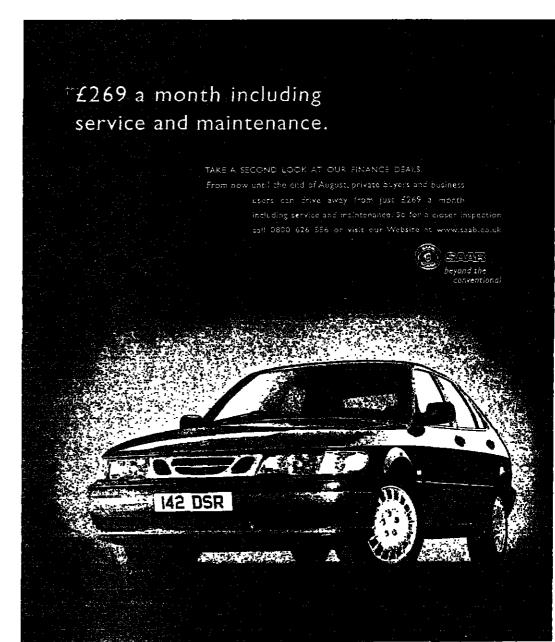
stage. I was the first there". He agreed with Roger Henderson QC, for Mr McKenna. that he became "the star of the

a quiet person. Flickering lights and "spooky, dreamy" music mesmerised him, he said.

He enjoyed parts of the show in which he and others were told, among other things, to prance around like Mick Jagger. dance ballet and imagine they were Blind Date contestants but he came out in "a red-hot flush" when he was told to put on glasses that would let him see through people's clothes.

After the show, he had terrible headaches. "My mind was buzzing. It was ringing in my head." Mr Gates said he was still not well enough to go back

In a written witness statement read by the judge. Mr Gates said he had had no fear about being hypnotised as he had not then heard of anyone being damaged by it.



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Unsolved mystery, of bin-bag baby

baby boy will be buried this month, 136 days after his still which had lasted only hours.

On a cold, dry night in March, plastic bin-bag, placed the strangled 7lb 8oz new-born body inside, and crept into a copse. The package was abandoned alongside a footpath, a secretive act bound to be discovered. The body was found at 11 o'clock the following morning.

The subsequent homicide restigation by Cheshire police has been comprehensive - and inconclusive. Every recent local regnancy notified to doctors has been investigated. Samples of DNA were taken from more than 300 teenage girls. Witpeople seen in the vicinity traced, and psychological profiles drawn. But nothing has led the 25 detectives involved in the inquiry to the baby's mother. This was a little baby boy

whom we know from the postmortem examination could have had a full and normal life," said Detective Chief Inspector John Hester, who is in charge of the investigation. 'We know it was an amateur delivery, we also know he could have lived, and we know he was strangled. Even after this time, I still have concern for the



mother's well-being. She must have been in considerable mental distress and very probably in physical distress. Unsupervised births are especially traumatic and often lead to complications.

To have killed the baby still more traumatic.

We have a DNA profile from the body, which means the mother can be identified, but only an indication given of the Police data banks strength-

ened some of Det Ch Insp Hester's hunches. The killing of new-born babies is rare, but suggest that the child was born locally in the Warrington area. With a probably unwitting

touch of irony, the bin-bag containing the baby's body was left close to the approach road to Gulliver's World, a castellated building standing alone in parkland. It is an elaborate children's adventure playground. with special rides for infants.

There is a community locally, but it is fragmented, a New Town of ersatz half-timbered houses in isolated cul-de-sacs, close to shopping malls. It was from one of these arcades that Asda, the supermarket, organised a collection to pay for the funeral of the child who was posthumously christened "Baby

Local people doubt if Callum was murdered, and Det Ch Insp detectives think most probably fits the mother – if not the killer starts with a concealed preg-

"That was what happened in a similar case a few years ago," Det Ch Insp Hester said. "A 13year-old girl got pregnant and ther parent knowing. She carried on going to school and gave birth in secrecy. Then she killed the baby."

Det Ch Insp Hester thinks that the facts of that case may bear similarities to the killing of Baby Callum and the area of Warrington in which he died, which was why DNA tests were run on girls absent from school around the time of the killing. Only one family refused to allow their daughter to be tested, and she was eliminated from the investigation after interview.

By taking a scrape from inside the mouth with a small desitting down with girls asking them where they were and who they had been with," the Detective Chief Inspector said. This is such a tragedy, particularly for the mother," he added. What's driven her to it?"

Callum's funeral will take place on 27 July. The collection by Asda raised more than £1,500 and the supermarket has donated an equal sum for the burial of the tiny body found

Police take too much sick leave, say MPs

BY IAN BURRELL Home Affairs Correspondent

SCOTLAND YARD came under fire from MPs yesterday as a Commons' committee revealed that London police officers were taking an average of three working weeks off sick a year.

The total cost of the Metropolitan Police's sickness bill was a staggering £96m. The 397,000 working days lost through sickness in the year 1996-97 represented a 25 per cent increase since 1991-92.

David Davis MP, Tory chairman of the Public Accounts Committee, warned Sir Paul Condon the Met Commissioner, that he must do more to use sanctions against officers who took time off unnecessarily.

He said: "The cost of sickness absence is unacceptably high and the very high levels of absence in some areas must have an impact on the prevention and detection of crime. There are sanctions available to tackle abuse of sick leave and we expect them to be used."



Sir Paul Condon: urged to reduce police sick leave

his 26,700 officers that regula- erating a carpet-cleaning busitions are being introduced to check their sickness claims and any suspicion of malingering could cost them their chances of promotion.

Undercover teams have been assigned to check on officers who are suspected of falsely claiming to be ill. One

Sir Paul has already warned constable was accused of opness while claiming to be off sick with a bad back.

The Met has set itself the target of making savings of nearly £10m during 1998-99 by reducing absence levels due to

A report issued yesterday by the committee stated that and 60 a year."

much of the increase in officer sickness was due to long-term sickness which accounts for 103,000 lost working days, almost double the figure for six years ago. In the same period, retirement has

In the three years to March 1997, 67 of the 1,345 members of the Met police who took illhealth retirement did so while facing disciplinary investi gation.

The report found that uniformed constables, who took an average of 16 days sick a year, were more prone to illness and physical assault than detectives, who took an average of 11 days off.

But the most vulnerable group was police traffic wardens, who averaged more than 20 working days off a year, more than nine days more than

the rest of the civilian staff. The MPs noted: "The [Met] needs to reduce the number of assaults on traffic wardens. currently running at between 50

Body's pain relief | Judge to sample mimics cannabis

BY CHARLES ARTHUR Technology Editor

THE ABILITY of cannabis to control the pain of people suffering from illnesses such as multiple sclerosis and arthritis may arise because the body makes similar chemicals to control pain signals.

that cannabis-like substances that the body produces are key in the control of pain experienced beyond the central nervous system. That would tally with the

Scientists have discovered

preference of a growing number of people who are smoking cannabis to control symptoms from various illnesses. In California, a recent by-law allowed people to grow cannabis for medicinal purposes.

According to work published today in the science journal Nature, "cannabinoid receptors" located outside the brain and spine are affected when the skin or flesh is cut or hurt. A cannabis-like chemical produced by the body, called anadamide, is released when cells are damaged and helps to ease the pain sensation.

Working together with another cannabinoid called PEA that the body makes, they reduced pain 100-fold, scientists

Antonio Calignano, at the University of Naples in Italy, found that rats which were treated with a chemical that anadamide showed longer and greater reaction to pain.

The findings could be important for research now underway in Britain, where the Home Office last month issued the first-ever licence to grow cannabis for investigation into the development of medicines. Dr Geoffrey Guy, who is run-

ning the tests, aims to extract active chemicals from the plants and check their effectiveness as painkillers. "I'm interested in producing something helpful to certain people, such as multiple sclerosis sufferers, people with

painful spinal injuries and pain from nerve diseases," he said last month The Italian researchers also noted that their findings could

lead to new anaesthetics which will exploit the ability of anandamide and similar cannabinoids generated by the body to reduce pain without ... side effects and perceived abuse potential" of cannabis or opiates such as heroin

'holiday hell'

BY KATE WATSON-SMYTH

A.JUDGE has adjourned a court hearing about a "holiday from hell" so that he can visit the hotel concerned - in Malta. It is the first time that a case

of this nature has been halted for a foreign visit. Judge Anthony Cleary, pre-

siding at Birmingham County Court. will travel to the Palm Court Hotel, St Paul's Bay, today with the solicitors for each side and return on Ros Fernihough, represent-

trips were usually only made when millions of pounds were at stake Since this case is in the

will receive a maximum of £3.000.

"It is completely unprecedented under the package travel regulations that a court has been adjourned to travel to foreign parts," she said.

"Normally the judge would look at photos and video evidence and decide the case, but in this case he felt unable to do that and when the defendants. Malta Sun Holidays Ltd, invited him to visit the hotel, he

Ms Fernihough, who is paying for the cost of the visit out of her own purse, said there had been numerous complaints about the two-star hotel but none of them was out of the or-

"It's what I call the usual grotty hotel case," she said. The families complained of cockroaches, dirty rooms, tatty and broken furniture, poor plumbing and a smell of sew-

"They have video evidence and photographs but the defendants were so adamant that ing the plaintiffs, said foreign the hotel was fine and produced evidence to the contrary that it was impossible for the

judge to decide the case. "But when they invited him small-claims court, the plaintiffs to go to Malta and have a look we never thought he would

even consider it." But consider it he did, and Judge Cleary, Ms Fernihough and Tom Brown, representing the travel company, will depart from Birmingham airport

for a 24-hour visit today. However, Ms Fernihough said she would not be staying

made my own arrangements."

in the Palm Court Hotel.

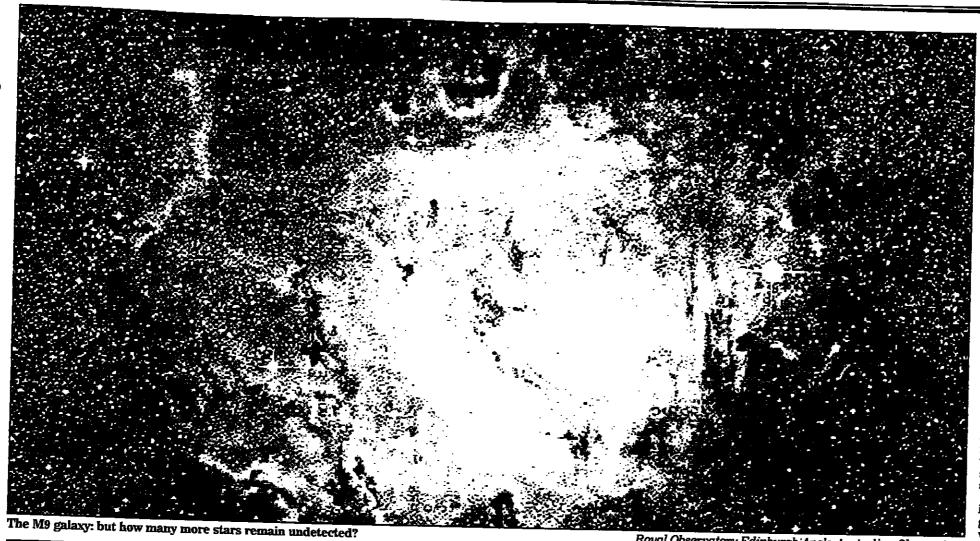
"Certainly not. I don't know about the others but I have aby

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Service Control

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Heat reveals earliest stars

By Charles Arthur Technology Editor

ASTRONOMERS ARE on the brink of a "true revolution" in their understanding of how many stars there are in the universe. The experts have realised that even the Hubble optical space telescope is unable to see a huge number of stars that have been burning brightly for billions of years.

The new findings have been described as "tremendously exciting" and a "true revolution" by Ian Robson of the UK's Joint Astronomy Centre, because they could force a revision of many ideas about when the majority of stars in our universe were formed. Before, astronomers had reckoned that many visible stars formed when the universe was about seven or eight billion years old. about half its present age.

But the new data would imply that many stars and galaxies formed when the universe was about one-eighth of its present age - perhaps just

two billion years old. "Understanding this new [star] population is essential in order to get a comprehensive picture of cosmic galaxy formation," said Richard Ellis, director of the Institute of Astronomy at Cambridge University.

The realisation that stars often form in thick dust clouds, which themselves absorb visible light, led two teams of British scientists and of American and Japanese astronomers, to wonder whether there might be a way of detecting any radiation put out by the dust clouds. Their work is reported today in the journal, Nature.

Though the dust absorbs visible light, it radiates it again as heat, or infra-red light that is "stretched" by the expanding universe, and so even harder to detect with optical instruments. But, by using the radio telescope Scuba, the Japanese and American team found that apparently dark patches of space were glowing with energy from galaxies formed when the uni-

Hoover loses out over free flights

THE SAGA of the Hoover free flights offer took a new twist yesterday when three customers who missed out on flights to America were awarded compensation against the

electrical company.

Three men were each awarded more than £350 after District Judge Ivor Bennett ruled that Hoover had been in breach of its contract.

The ruling, which relates to and 1994, follows a decision by of people bought items purely the same judge on Tuesday, dis- for the prospect of a free trip. missing the claims of four other people. The judge ruled that on Hoover, and the company those customers had turned had to spend 220m on flights to down free flights offered to satisfy demand. Several execthem as alternatives to their utives were sacked.

first choices. stead. Herts, said he was de- Helen's County Court. lighted by the rulings.

said. "We will now sit back and take stock of everything that has happened, but we feel we have been vindicated and plan favour in five cases heard yes-

County Court, Merseyside, judgements made against us," Judge Bennett dismissed said a spokeswoman.

Hower's proviment that the "Where the judgement was three claimants - David Albutt made in favour of Hoover it from Essex, Malcolm Hill from dearly vindicates the stance the Essex and Peter Madigan from Ayrshire - had not followed the these cases are common to

competition's rules. The electrical giant said the litigation." men had not submitted second their first choice not be available. Judge Bennett decided nience.

this was not the case and awarded Mr Albutt £398 and £374 for the other two men. They were also awarded some of their costs.

The judge yesterday rejected the claim of claimant Bernard Cramp, from Sussex, because he had failed to take up alternative offers.

Hoover said more than 220,000 customers flew to America as part of the promotion which offered free flights if they spent more than £100 on a promotion dating from 1993 a Hoover product. Thousands

The promotion back-fired

Thousands of customers Last night Harry Cichy, of claimed they did not receive the the Hoover Holiday Pressure free tickets. More than 100 Group, based in Hemel Hemp- cases are still outstanding at St

Last night Hoover said it "After yesterday's results would probably be appealing we were a bit downhearted," he against the three decisions which went against them.

"Whilst Hoover is pleased with the judgements in its terday and today, it is likely that Yesterday at St Helens we will be appealing the three

company has adopted. Facts of other examples of free flights'

Judge Bennett has declined choice dates for flights, should to award damages for general upset, distress or inconve-



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Air Commodore Cynthia Fowler ADC RAF

Royal air force (9) 多 多馬 人名莫尔雷 放送性 吃进运动

Al Fayed 'moved goalposts' on deal

By Stephen Howard

pay top broadcasting consultant mercially, Mr Fayed's company Michael Hollingsworth £127,000 "moved the goalposts" in its in fees after the Harrods owner agreement with Mr lost interest in setting up a Hollingsworth, said Mr Shepmedia empire, a High Court herd. He claimed that Mr judge was told yesterday.

of TV personality Anne Dia-fused to pay him six months' mond, was brought in to run Mr money in lieu of notice. Fayed's company, Liberty Broadcasting, after it bought the Hollingsworth knew when he

Philip Shepherd, representing Mr Hollingsworth, told Mr the month one week and not the Justice David Steel that Mr next". Fayed had plans to expand in broadcasting and publishing this case because Mr but Viva had reception prob lems and his revamped Punch this was something of a new

Fayed at an annual salary of next."

£170,000 with six months' notice. But when the media pro-MOHAMED AL Fayed refused to jects were unsuccessful com-

Hollingsworth was not paid for Mr Hollingsworth, husband several months and Liberty re-

Mr Shepherd said that Mr AM London radio station. Viva. negotiated his contract that it was "very easy to be flavour of

"That was particularly so in magazine failed to take off. venture for Mr Fayed and that Mr Hollingsworth, who runs to put it frankly, Mr Fayed was Venture Television representing known for being keen on things a stable of presenters, accept- at one moment and then to ed a job as consultant with Mr completely lose interest the

Payback time as Blair makes capital out of spending spree

and the previous week could not have been more marked.

After the pummelling given to Tony Blair by William Hague last Wednesday, the Prime Minister regained the initiative. Buoyed by the afterglow of Gordon Brown's oldfashioned spending spree. Mr Blair was determined to cash in on the moment, get in on the act and obtain his share of the limelight.

He had watched, silently, as Mr Brown and his acolytes stole the show the day before when codles

A WEEK is a long time in politics first hand how skin deep the three years, contrary to Mr Blair's and the contrast between Prime New Labour philosophy of fiscal Minister's question time yesterday rectitude and monetary restraint really is when a taste of the old-fash- that most of the increases were for ioned medicine is tipped down grateful backbenchers.

The Labour Party was still in party mode and the hangover from the night before will be delayed came off the dole and got real jobs. many months. So it was a brazen and confident Prime Minister who was waiting with his playground managed a couple of hard left mob of boisterous backbenchers to pay back the Just William gang who had thrown mud and other "Cronygate" missiles at him earlier.

Mr Hague was in a stew about of doodle were sprayed all over the welfare budget which he said

promises at the last election.

The Prime Minister retorted child benefit, disability and pensions. The New Deal, he said, would reduce the remainder of the welfare budget as young people

Mr Blair was determined not to be mugged at the despatch box and hooks which bruised young William but did no serious damage. When argument failed to convince either of the other's case they both resorted to insults. "He can dance around that despatch box with THE SKETCH



BROWN ister ranted at Mr Hague.

The opposition leader returned the fire with his own catapult schools and hospitals. He saw at was going up by £27hn over the next sixth-form debating points but he "£14bn increase in the Depart-

ment of Social Security budget is hidden away as accounting adjustments; the Paymaster General [Geoffrey Robinson] would probably put this down as directors'

fees". This got a good cheer from the Tories but they have been on the back foot these past couple of days. Referring to the Tories' new

"listen to the people" exercise, the Prime Minister said, to Labour laughter: "You're on a listening tour, so listen".

Dennis Skinner (Lab. Bolsover) shouted from a seated position that it was time for Just William to go back to bed and so Paddy Ashdown, for the Liberal Democrats, tried to move things on without asked, to laughter from all sides. What happens if the unexpected happens?

Mr Blair claimed to be prepared for all eventualities. If he is, this will be a first for any government or prime minister. Margaret Thatcher and Harold MacMillan both acknowledged the capacity of events and the unexpected to overwhelm the best laid plans.

Mr Blair played his dirtiest trick on the hapless Michael Fabricant (C, Lichfield) who followed a long line of Tory backbenchers pursuing Mr Hague's theme. Inspired by an infants' school visit earlier in the day, the Prime Minister treated Mr

Swinging himself to stage right and using his arms for emphasis Mr Blair said: "There is a part of the budget on pensions, child benefit and disability. Good. We like that

spending." Turning himself through 180 degrees, Mr Blair went on: "Now

we've got this part that is about unemployed people on benefit when they should be at work. Bad." Stage right again: "This bit we

Stage left again: "But we use the

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New Deal to diminish this bit. Got Simplicity is always the best way and even I finally understood.

protect."

Hague targets social security pledges

THE PRIME MINISTER strongly denied that his government was failing to control social security spending yesterday and accused the Conservatives of wanting to cut budgets of "front-line" services.

Following the Chancellor's Comprehensive Spending Review on Tuesday, the leader of money "translated into real the Opposition, William Hague, charged Mr Blair with failing to live up to his pre-election pledge to cut welfare spending - set to rise by £37bn over the next three years, according to Commons library figures ob-

tained by the Conservatives. During Prime Minister's Questions Mr Blair repeatedly challenged Mr Hague to say, on the record, which social service he would cut? He said that the Tories would go into the next election having opposed extra cash for health and education. "That's their choice and they

BY DAISY SAMPSON

will have to live with it." he said. Phil Woolas (Lab. Oldham E and Saddleworth), a former president of the National Union of Students, said his constituents wanted the extra hospital beds and real class-

rooms as soon as possible". Mr Blair told him: "That's precisely what will happen ... By tying it to reform and modernisation we will ensure that wisely, goes to the front line of

"The Conservative Party, having decided to oppose our plans now ... will be going into the next general election saying that what we're doing for the schools and hospitals in providing more - they would be

Mr Hague said: "Having vowed to cut welfare bills, you have comprehensively failed to do so. Can you confirm that the social security budget will now rise by over £27bn over the next three years? And can you

explain why the Chancellor

didn't even mention this yes-

terday?' Mr Blair said the £27bn was money spent on the whole of the social security budget. "The vast bulk is spent on pensions. child benefit and disabilities and through the new deal we money is spent well, spent are cutting spending on social and economic failure as we promised. Perhaps you'll tell us

> would like to cut?" Mr Hague said: "It's you who said new Labour is about cutting welfare bills. It's no good two years later asking

which of those items - pensions,

child benefit or disabilities - you

crease in the rate of growth of welfare spending - £5bn extra next year, £8bn the year after, £14bn the year after.

"Will you now admit that you've failed and far and away the biggest increase in yesterday's announcement - bigger than education and health - was in welfare and social security

But Mr Blair would not be drawn, telling MPs: "That's our policy opposed by you. So not merely do you oppose us raising pensions, child benefit and disabilities, but you also oppose the measures that do cut the bills of economic and social

But again the Tory leader accused him of disingenuous accounting. However, Mr Blair had the last backbench laugh, telling his opponent: "You're on other people how to do it ... a listening tour, so listen."



Mallon to move forward to advance the peace process.

Tony Blair and David Blunkett, Secretary of State for Education, applauding pupils' singing at the Hawley Infant advance the peace process.

Tony Blair and David Blunkett, Secretary of State for Education, applauding pupils' singing at the Hawley Infant advance the peace process.

Ulster killings condemned

THE PRIME Minister yesterday condemned the "appalling and evil tragedy" of the murder of the three young Quinn brothers in Ballymoney on the day that the Northern Ireland Bill was introduced into the Com-

The Bill gives legal form to the peace Agreement that was negotiated on Good Friday and should go through all its Com- in showing that they are premons stages before the Sum-

He was responding at question time to Kate Hoey (Lab, Vauxhall) who condemned the sectarian firebomb attack.

Obviously deeply upset by the tragedy. Ms Hoey, who is UlNORTHERN IRELAND BY DAISY SAMPSON

ster-born congratulated the way that the RUC had shown "they can be even-handed" and added: "Those who call for their disbandment are just plain Mr Blair agreed with her are now seeing".

saying: "I think that the RUC, pared to stand for the rule of law in respect of intimidation from any quarter did a great service season. both to themselves and to the peace process in Northern Ire-

Questions, Eddy McGrady

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Blair to agree "that the right of his SDLP deputy. Seamus Mala limited number of people to march in a limited stretch of road must be subjugated against the odds for death, terrorism, sectarianism, intimidation, road blocking, business destruction is the alternative we

Mr Blair said that "with a bit of goodwill and dialogue we can find a way round" the problems posed by the marching

He praised the recent behaviour of the nationalist SDLP and of Ulster Unionist Leader Later in Prime Minster's and First Minister of the Northern Ireland Assembly, David

(SDLP, Down South) asked Mr Trimble who, he said, had with lon, "shown what the future of Northern Ireland could be if people wanted it".

Eddy McGrady urged the Orangemen not to march down the Garvaghy Road saying it would not be a defeat for them but a "massive contribution to the welfare of the people of Northern Ireland

Mo Mowlam, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland. agreed that incredible progress had been made and acknowledged it had taken "a lot of guts of both" Mr Trimble and Mr

Fare rise to pay for better Tube

FARES ON THE London Underground may have to be raised substantially and train services cut back, an influential Commons committee warned yesterday. Such drastic measures would be necessary, it said, to pay for the Government's ambitious modernisation plans.

Ministers propose a "public private partnership" with Tube trains, track and stations leased to private firms, which would then rent them back to London Transport. Money collected by private firms would be used to upgrade the ailing network. However, the Transport Se-

lect Committee said yesterday

BY RANDEEP RAMESH Transport Correspondent

it was "seriously concerned that - in the event of a gap between income from fares and the payments to contractors" - there would be "pressure to raise fares and reduce service levels".

Campaigners said Londoners were already seeing "huge" rises. Ticket prices have risen by more than 40 per cent in real terms since 1985. "The most heavily used lines have seen some of biggest rises. About a third of all journeys are made

from the Treasury", fares were likely to go up. "The Government wants £7bn to be invested over 15 years ... about £500m a year extra. If it all came from ticket sales, it would see fares

which last year saw fares rise

by 8.3 per cent when inflation

thia Hay, co-ordinator for Cap-

ital Transport Campaign.

was 3.3 per cent," said Cyn-

Experts said that as the pri-

vale sector expected "a higher

rate of return than borrowing

rice Fitzpatrick, of accountants Chantrey Vellacott. Gwyneth Dunwoody, the transport committee chair, said

rise by 50 per cent," said Mau-

government must "cap fare increases and set minimum service levels". MPs also called plans to lease Tube trains, track and stations to the private sector as a "convoluted compromise". Other "solutions might

have been more cost-effective". The report said Peter Ford, the former London Transport chairman, had estimated the plans would add £1bn to the cost of renewing the system.

The committee also called for the Government to release a report by accountants Price Waterhouse outlining the cost of alternatives such as floating the Tube on the stock market.

munist supporter.
Mr Lewis, MP for New Forest East, called on the new British Council chairman, Baroness Kennedy of the Shaws, to "disavow the disgraceful political record she had of support for Communist organisations who

supported regimes whose murderous activities left a blot on the history of the 20th century". Foreign Office Minister of State Doug Henderson said: "I think the House will appreciate the comments of Mr Soames, who set the record straight on the content of the speech ... "

The House

Sorry speech

NICHOLAS SOAMES, the

former Tory armed-forces

minister, apologised to

Labour for an "appalling"

speech by his backbench

colleague, Julian Lewis, for

accusing the QC Baroness

Kennedy, the Labour life

peer, of being an ex-Com-

Rents to leap

COUNCIL HOUSE rents are to rise by 5 per cent above inflation over the next three years. The announcement - in the Lords on the day Chancellor Gordon Brown unveiled his Comprehensive Spending Review - was condemned by the Tories as "a new tax on hard-working men and women across the UK".

QUESTIONS **ANSWERS**

Performers' right JOHN DENHAM, a Social

Security minister, said that performers, who have hitherto been treated as self-employed by the Inland Revenue and as employees for National insurance purposes, will now on be regarded as selfemployed. He said performers who have incorrectly been paying NI contributions over the past six months can apply for a refund.

Prison escorts

Lord Williams of Mostyn, a Home Office minister, said that only people subject to security arrangements are eligible for police escorts, or prisoners where such escorts are considered necessary.

MPs 'should pay through the nose' for car parking

MPS WHO receive free year. MPS' PERKS round parking passes in the By Fran ABRAMS House of Commons should be made to pay for the privilege. John Prescott has been told.

Norman Baker, the Liberal Democrat MP for Lewes, wrote to Mr Prescott saying Commons' parlong passes represent a £1.56m annual motorists' subsidy. If MPs were made to park in the car park across the road from the Houses of Parliament they would pay £19.50 for 12 hours' stay. With Parliament sit Prescott. ting for about 200 out of every

£3,900 a year. Mr Baker said the Government should encourage motorists to leave their cars at home by making them pay. He asked his researcher to

365 days it would cost them

Political Correspondent

to work in the Commons each day. Of 521 spaces in the underground car park at West-

minster about 400 were in use. This is not the sort of perk we should be encouraging. The public cannot be expected to change their attitudes towards transport if MPs continue to act in the same way," he told Mr

Last night he said MPs should set an example by using public transport. "Westminster has a very good tube station right next to the Commons, and a very good bus service. There is no earthly reason why MPs should have to drive in, and if

through the nose for it like those who use the public car park opposite have to," he said. Although all MPs are asked when they arrive if they want a car parking pass, Mr Baker has declined his. He uses the

train to travel between his south-coast constituency and the house. A spokesman for the Sergeant at Arms office, which

allocates the passes, said it was starting to collect data on how many MPs used their car parking passes regularly. "We have a sense that members are using their cars less.

They just don't apply for the pass or they have one and they don't use it." he said.

A spokeswoman for Mr Prescott's department said he find out how many people drove they do they should pay had not yet seen the letter,

ding spree

Greenpeace urges UN to save St Kilda

THE ANNUAL battle of the By STEPHEN GOODWIN Atlantic between Greenpeace and the oil industry began yesterday. Eco-activists in a tiny catamaran forced an exploration vessel off course and in a separate move the campaigners appealed to the United Nations to intervene to save the tiny islands of St Kilda from oil hazards.

Launched from the MV Greenpeace, which is trying to disrupt the search for oil in the "Atlantic Frontier", the catamaran with four protesters on board sailed into the path of a seismic testing vessel. The incident took place about 100 miles west of Scotland in a block licensed to Conoco. Robbie Kelman, a campaigner on board Greenpeace, said the Atlantic Explorer was forced to change course at the last moment.

Simultaneously, the environmentalists were also claiming a threat to St Kilda, the most isolated of the British isles, far west of the Outer Hebrides and abandoned by its last per-

manent residents 60 years ago. St Kilda has the world's largest population of the gannet and the UK's largest population Scotland Correspondent

of fulmars. The clear waters around its rocky shores are rich in marine life including whales and dolphins. So important ecologically is St Kilda that it is Britain's only natural World Heritage Site - the highest United Nations designation.

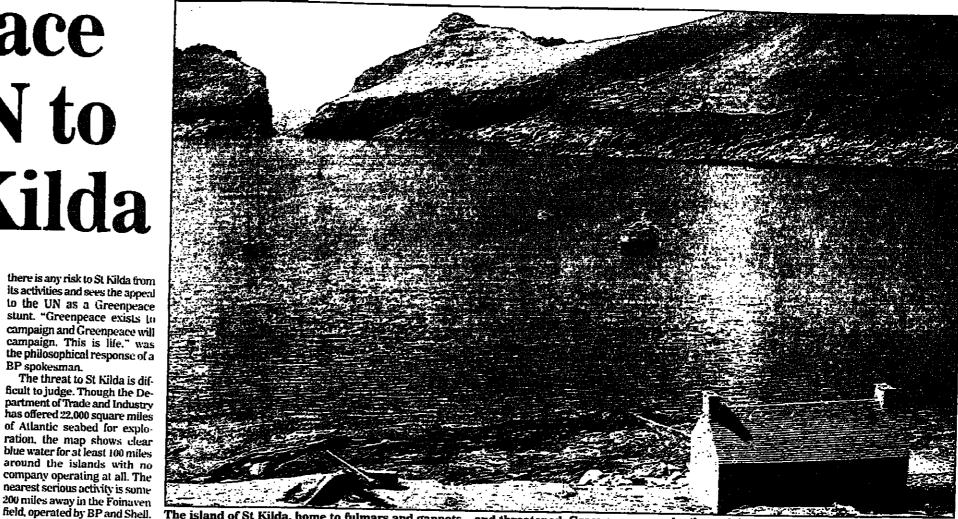
BP spokesman.

Greenpeace says that this natural richness is threatened by oil exploration in the Atlantic Frontier and has appealed to the UN's scientific and cultural arm, Unesco, to put St Kilda on its "in-danger" list. "St Kilda is part of our uni-

versal heritage, it belongs to everyone in the world," said Lord Melchett, Greenpeace's executive director. "It is a unique and terribly fragile in the face of oil. Since the British government care so little for it, we are asking the United Nations to save it.

If the cluster of four islands was listed as in danger, it would put powerful moral pressure on ministers not to take any risks in the granting of further exploration licences.

The industry denies that



Childminder 'did not shake baby'

By NATALIE MARTIN

A CHILDMINDER yesterday denied she had done anything to cause the serious head injuries which killed a five-month-old boy who was in her care.

Giving evidence on the third Crown Court, Helen Stacey, 41, of North Walsham, Norfolk, said she had never shaken the child. She denies murdering Joseph Mackin - the son of Anthony and Corinne Mackin, also of North Walsham - at her

Asked by Graham Parkins QC, for the defence, if she had shaken him on 13 May or at any other time, Ms Stacey replied:

Mr Parkins asked: "Did you throw him down in a cot, on a

mattress or a sofa?" Ms Stacey replied: "No." Mr Parkins then asked her if she had done anything to

cause injuries to the boy and she replied: "None whatsoever." Ms Stacey said there had been no accident involving Joseph when he was in her care and no other adult had been

with the baby in her absence. she had decided to become a and Samantha "perfectly well" childminder following the birth and smiling. But when he went of her daughter, Monique, in Au-

"My husband had taken another job which did not pay so grey and floppy. much. We needed the money

but I did not want to leave my daughter with anyone else. I wanted to be with her all the time so I decided to find something to do at home so I could he with her"

She said she had known one or two other childminders and day of her trial at Norwich had enjoyed looking after children. She said she had found out about childminding after Monique was born and was cleared to be registered at about Christmas-time 1996.

Before Joseph and his twoyear-old sister Samantha went looked after another two-yearold with no complaints, the

Joseph died four days after Ms Stacey started to care for him when Mrs Mackin, 36, returned to work part time. The jury has been told he suffered a severe head injury inflicted by

the use of considerable force. The prosecution alleges that Ms Stacey shook the baby after losing her temper and then failed to call a doctor.

Joseph was taken to hospital when his father Anthony arrived to collect him but died from his injuries. Mr Mackin She went on to explain that has told the court he left Joseph back to collect them it was obvious something was seriously wrong with the baby, who was

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VIAGRA CORNER

DESPATCHES FROM THE FRONTIERS OF MEDICINE

WHAT IS England known for? Along with rain, roast beef and adulterous monarchs we can now include a small, blue, diamond-shaped pill designed to help men put the snap back in their celery. Viagra, it turns out, is a British invention, according to three patents filed by its manufacturer, Pfizer, whose laboratories are based in Sandwich, Kent.

The first, filed in June 1991. was for a new class of compounds, pyrazolopyramidinones, to treat heart trouble. Its inventors are listed as Andrew Bell, Dr David Brown and Dr Nicholas Terrett. While these drugs were on initial trials for safety in healthy volunteers, its pleasing side effect was noticed. Volunteers began asking for extra sup-

plies to take home. In May 1994, a second patent was filed for the same class of drugs but this time for impotence. The inventors were Dr Nicholas Terrett, again, and Peter Ellis.

A third patent, filed in June last year, discloses a process for preparing sildenafil, the chemical name for Viagra. The inventors this time were



The inventors are unlikely to benefit directly - financially, that is - but Pfizer is expected to make millions. Viagra is already one of the fastest selling drugs in the US and is expected to be licensed in Britain in the autumn. But yesterday the British

Association of Urological Surgeons warned hospital clinics would be overwhelmed if Vivia consultants. Alan Milburn, the health minister, earlier warned: "I am determined to ensure NHS resources aren't frittered away (on 'recreational' prescribing of Viagra)."

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Fury at arrest of homeless centre staff

TWO MANAGERS of a day cen- By IAN BURRELL tre for the homeless are expecting to be charged today with allowing their premises to be used for the supply of drugs.

Homeless charities said it was the first time such workers had been arrested by police and predicted it would place managers of hostels and homeless centres in an impossible position. The two were arrested after

a two-month undercover operation by Cambridgeshire police in which officers disguised themselves as homeless people and secretly filmed inside the centre. Ruth Wyner, 48, director of the Winter Comfort homeless proect in Cambridge, said she was "shocked and very confused" to

been working with the homeless for 20 years and had not been arrested for any offence before. Mrs Wyner, who has two children, said: "It's a known fact that around half of people who are homeless are injecting drugs. We try to stop people bringing drugs on to the

premises but we don't have powers to search people." She claimed the centre had

Home Affairs Correspondent

and anyone found using or supplying illegal drugs was barred. Also arrested and on police bail is John Brock, 48, a former college lecturer, who has been project manager at the Overstream House day centre for seven years. He said he was "devastated" by the police's handling of the matter and

"very anxious" for his family. The police operation, codenamed Wythall, was aimed at tackling the problem of heroin use in Cambridge. After the undercover filming, officers raided six addresses in the city in May and arrested four men and be arrested. She said she bad two women. They were charged with supplying heroin.

Five days later Mrs Wyner was arrested and taken in for questioning before being released on police bail. Mr Brock

was arrested the following week. Yesterday Kate Head, of the National Homeless Alliance, said that Winter Comfort was one of 1,000 similar projects around Britain and the system would be thrown into "chaos" by the police action.

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She also accused Cambridgeshire police of contradicting government policy on social exclusion, which stresses that the police should work in co-operation with homeless

agencies in fighting drugs. "If directors of day centres are to be charged, then that has serious implications for prison governors and head teachers who are also in charge of premises where drugs are being supplied," she said.

Mike Goodman, of the drugs charity Release, said: "Not only does this appear to be an enormous waste of taxpayers' money and a misuse of police resources but it runs entirely contrary to to current thinking on how we should be responding to drug prevention and the needs of marginalised groups such as homeless people.'

A spokeswoman for Cambridgeshire police confirmed that a file on the two homeless centre managers had been sent to the Crown Prosecution Service. The spokeswoman added that the two remained on police bail and could not confirm that any decision had been taken to

Adjudicator's hands tied on **Ofsted reports**

BY BEN RUSSELL Education Correspondent

THE ADJUDICATOR brought in to rule on complaints made by schools against inspectors criticised aspects of her job yesterday and admitted that she had no power to change disputed reports on schools.

Elaine Rassaby said the fact that she had been appointed by senior officials at the Office for Standards in Education (Ofsted) was "not entirely satisfactory". Ms Rassaby told the

the Secretary of State for Education. Instead, Ms Rassaby was

appointed by a panel which included Ofsted's head of resources and its director of inspections. She is paid by Ofsted under a one-year contract. which the agency has the power to renew.

The complaints adjudicator insisted that she would prove to be an independent figure, and as such could make public any disputes she might have with Ofsted or with its chief, Chris Woodhead.

The issue is an extremely sensitive one for Ofsted, which has been heavily criticised by teachers and heads.

Ms Rassaby said: "I think my jurisdiction and my remit are quite limited. I'm not in a posi-

tion, and I don't see it as my role, to make judgements about the content of inspections and the standards that have been set ... I'm here as an adjudicator, not as a policymaker."

Ms Rassaby told MPs she would have no power to order changes to inspection reports and could not ask Ofsted to repeat a disputed inspection. She also said she could not challenge the professional conclusions of inspectors, as long as they were backed up by classroom visits. Instead, she said, Commons Education Select she could recommend that Of-Committee that the appoint- sted apologise in cases of error, ment should have been made or write to schools setting the independently, preferably by record straight. Ofsted could reject the request "in extreme circumstances" but would have

Ms Rassaby said she expected to deal with around 10 disputed cases a year, but admitted there were problems in Ofsted's complaints procedure for the 200 schools which complain about their treatment each year. "There are barriers in proceeding down Ofsted's own complaints procedure because of the time involved."

Teachers' leaders were sceptical. A spokeswoman for the Association of Teachers and Lecturers said: "Teachers fear that the appointment is no more than a PR stunt. ATL continues to call for the role to be set wider and to be properly independent."

Education tabloid

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Audience send off palefaced 'Al Jolson'

a white face because of politically correct council rules. But Clive Baldwin's pale im-

itation was ended by Hull's New Theatre audience, who stopped the show, demanding his face be blacked up. So he de-fied Hull council guidelines and daubed on the greasepaint before continuing with "Mammy" - the song made famous by the "blacked-up" Jolson in the first talking picture. The Jazz Singer, in 1927. Hull-born Mr Baldwin, 64,

world's greatest minstrel with cult one, it really is."

AN AL JOLSON impersonator was forced to go on stage with need to black up because it's the epitome of expression for love of a people who had no voice until Al Joison gave them one." Producer John Wray added:

"Because of the rules I'd told Clive not to black up, but he got carried away ... The crowd felt cheated and miffed. They demanded he put it on." The theatre's programme manager, Michael Lister, said: "(The rules) were introduced in an era of political correctness (12 years ago) after some people objected to (a Black and White said: "I regard myself as the Minstrels Show) ... It's a diffi-

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Call to punish "men profiting from sex trade

A LEADING children's charity has called for legislation to punish men making money from the burgeoning trade in child prostitution.

Barnardo's said men across Britain were exploiting children as young as 11 or 12 with little or no likelihood of prosecution. Those who are caught are often charged with no more than

"Men are getting away with it because it is considered prostitution when in reality it is nothing other than child abuse," a spokeswoman said. "The term prostitution and the accompanying mental images

suggest that a woman has a choice in what she is doing ... [but] no girl aged 12 or 13 wakes up one morning and decides she is going to start sell-

The charity, which today launches a campaign entitled Whose Daughter Next?. believes that many people are not aware of the problem because most children involved are not on the streets. Rather than seiling themselves in public most child prostitutes are kept by pimps in flats and rooms.

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BY ANDREW BUNCOMBE

often as prisoners. They may be moved from town to town as business demands

Barnardo's, which has set up support groups for young girls in several cities, has highlighted a depressing picture in which young girls are lured into prostitution by pimps. es often aged between 18 and 25. Often a man will pretend to be the girl's boyfriend.

"Tanya" told the charity: "I was 14 when I met Barry. He was really nice and bought me clothes and presents ... He suggested that I earn some money by having sex with a friend who was in town. I refused, but he hit me until I said I would. I remember crying all the time.

Sara Swann. a national development officer with Barnardo's, said: "The abuse these girls suffer daily is physical and emotional as well as sexual. There are bruises, burns and broken bones. Rapes and sexual assaults have led to infertility, sexually transmitted diseases, abortions and a stillborn baby. Emotional abuse

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has resulted in self-mutilation, overdoses, eating disorders and drug addiction.

The projects, one of which is run in Wolverhampton with the help of the Association of Chief Police Officers, have exploded many of the child prostitution myths. Of the girls helped by the support groups, only a third were previously known to the

Barnardo's wants the Government to set up an inter-departmental task force to look at child prostitution, which it believes is a growing problem involving thousands of girls. It also wants Whitehall to review sentences for unlawful sexual intercourse and to issue new guidelines to the judiciary.

More than one million children are growing up with parents who suffer from serious alcohol abuse, a conference in London will be told today.

Organised by the NSPCC ChildLine, NCH Action for Children and Alcohol Concern, the meeting, entitled Children of Problem Drinking Parents, will hear that such children are four times more likely to suffer from psychiatric disorders.



National's 'Oklahoma!' what a beautiful evening

LAST WEEK the National Theatre appealed to its audiences for cash to keep going. Last night it staged the show that could belp solve its problems and become its moneymaking blockbuster of the

Trevor Nunn's revival of Oklohoma! has already taken £1.5m at the advance box office. It will now play at the Olivier Theatre every night until

The sumptuous revival, whose only household name vas Maureen Lipman as Aunt Eller, featured much that was new: new choreography from Susan Stroman, the first time a change of choreography had been allowed; young unknowns in the lead roles and two Rodgers and Hammerstein songs not featured in the original stage production, nor in the

Fred Zinneman movie. Oklahoma! first stunned the world in the Forties. When it opened in Britain in 1947 during the era of food rationing, pea-soupers and early show times to conserve electricity, it

FIRST NIGHT

OKLAHOMA!, NATIONAL THEATRE, LONDON

exhilarated audiences. A young Princess Margaret saw it 27 times. In theatrical history it was a seminal moment. It was the first musical to integrate songs and story, the first to have dream ballet.

Nunn and Stroman made another first last night. Their actors were dancers too and danced their own dream sequence rather than the usual. unsatisfactory staging of the lead actors watching two ballet dancers pretend to be them.

"You have to think of it as if it's brand new," Susan Stroman said in an interview. "That's certainly what we're doing with Oklahoma! which is also about the building of a new America. On the surface it might seem to be a show about who gets the right picnic basket, but it's really much more than that. It's about a time

when everyone had the right to

Trevor Nunn loathes the New York terminology which differentiates between musicals and "legitimate theatre." Oklahoma!, he has insisted, is great piece of theatre as well as a great musical, and in his hands it certainly becomes just

"It's about the experience of nature," he said recently. These people find themselves settling in God's acre, in a kind of paradise. They must decide who is going to live there and on what terms. It's a turbulent question. There's a kind of war going on, a war about fences between the cowmen and farm-

ers. It's a nervy time." Hugh Jackman, an Australian, who plays the male lead Curly, adds to the insistence that this production redefines a classic. "People have a lot of preconceptions, but we're drawing on the play that the musical was based on -Green Grow the Lilacs by Lynn Riggs. It's harsher and the characters are harder-edged."

"dirty realist" and eschews the

sunny optimism of Zinneman's 1955 movie. But as last night's audience found, an unforgettable score containing "O What a Beautiful Morning", "Surrey with the Fringe on Top", "The Farmer and the Cowman" and "Oklahoma" itself, have more of

an infectious optimism than realism, dirty or otherwise. One leaves this production, happy and singing. Preview audiences have al-

ready been showering it with ecstatic praise, among them no less a critic than Mary Rodgers, daughter of the musical's composer, Richard Rodgers. The family is stunned," she said.

A blockbuster success will ease the National's financial problems; it will quietly please Trevor Nunn if his musical revival ends up out-gunning Richard Eyre's Guys and Dolls. And it will delight audiences to see this timeless classic back on the London

Laws urged to catch the 'Mr Bigs'

By JASON BENNETTO

AMERICAN-STYLE laws to catch back-room criminal "godfathers" who are evading justice, are being examined by police chiefs, it was revealed yesterday.

Dozens of major criminals are virtually untouchable because they have hired hands to carry out their dangerous work.

The police are aware of suspected criminal overlords who have vast assets obtained from lawbreaking, such as drug trafficking, robbery and bootlegging, but cannot convict them of any offence. Some are living in huge houses, own expensive cars and go on exotic holidays, but have no obvious source of

Sir John Hoddinott, Chief Constable of Hampshire and member of the Association of Chief Police Officers' crime committee said: "We're talking about the people who finance it fcrimel, direct it, but can never be caught ... the person who allows or commits criminality but who never has his hand on the gun, the drugs or the

Superintendent Robert Golding, of Hampshire Police said: "We're talking about the Mr Bigs who are very difficult to get. There are people who we are confident are involved in criminal activities who we can't

In a policy document presented yesterday at Acpo's con-ference in Birmingham, the crime committee called for a review of the conspiracy law.

Sir John said that one possible change could be to adopt American-style laws which force suspected criminals to prove how they paid for their possessions. Failure to provide evidence of a legitimate source of income can lead to imprisonment and the seizure of

At present the police rely on using the law of conspiracy in which they must prove that two people have organised a criminal act. This usually involves catching the offenders in the act, which can be extremely difficult. Any change would need legislation by the Govly opposed by many lawyers who would argue that existing powers are sufficient.

Police chiefs have asked the recently formed National Crime Squad and the National Criminal Intelligence Service to draw up a list of suspects with vast unexplained assets. NCIS already has a list of about 400 key targets or "core nominals".

"We've got in mind the sort of people who have no apparent means of income but have three houses and drive several cars," said Sìr John. He said that police chiefs in England and Wales knew of "two or three" suspects in each of the 43 forces. He added that the police would have to have some evidence of wrongdoing before asking them to prove where their assets came from.

"You would have to prove there was a criminal lifestyle," he added.

■ The bank accounts of all new recruits and many of the existing 1.450 officers in the National Crime Squad will be monitored to ensure they are not taking bribes, it was announced yesterday. A special vetting unit is to be established in the squad as part of an anti-corruption initiative.

Seventies phobia | Tory seaside casino plan led to suicide

BY DAMIEN PEARSE

"TRADITIONAL" publican whose bar was converted into a trendy 1970s theme pub killed himself after telling his ex-wife he could not bear to wear flares

and a wig. Donald Cameron, 39, believed he would be ridiculed if he ditched his snappy suits for the retro gear of his youth, an in quest in Birmingham was told. The coroner, Dr Richard Whittington, recorded a verdict of su icide on Mr Cameron after hear ing how he was driven to despair when the Kaleidoscope nightspot became Flares.

The inquest was told how the father-of-two was found dead in his fume-filled car days after a "dummy run" for the theme pub

in Birmingham city centre. He had been reprimanded for turning up wearing a suit and tie. The hearing was told how staff at the new Flares club were expected to wear Seventies clot

hes after it opened last month.

Mr Cameron's former wife, Carol, told the hearing how in the days before his death he had become depressed because he feared he would lose the respect he had built up among the customers and his staff. "He did not want to stand in the

pub wearing a 70s outfit and a

wig. He said he could not do it." He said he would be made to look a fool if he wore the clothes and he felt he could not deal with any trouble in the pub. He thoug ht people would laugh at him because he looked ludicrous." PLANS BY the previous home BY IAN BURRELL secretary Michael Howard to transform the fortunes of some of Britain's seaside towns by en-

ernment, Mr Howard had envisaged revitalising some of the nation's sleepier resorts by giving them some of the glamour of

couraging them to open casinos

Las Vegas or Atlantic City. But Rome Office minister George Howarth announced last night that a review of casino regulations had concluded that "Great Britain is already well served with casinos and that there is not a compelling case for a large extension to that provision".

The government has consequently rejected proposals for

quashed by Government

Home Affairs Correspondent the building of casinos in 21 new permitted areas.

have been quashed by the gov-Among the towns which were turned down are the Sussex resorts of Eastbourne and Hastings, the West country holiday towns of Weston-super-Mare and Weymouth and the Kent resort of Folkestone.

Also rejec ted was a plan to make a casino from one of the the most glamorous hotels in the north of England, the 60bedroom art deco Midland Hotel at Morecambe.

Mr Howarth said there were already 53 areas in Britain permitted to have casinos. "We do not consider it apthose which do not have a significant resident population, he said.

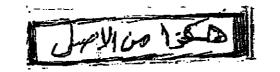
Other towns and cities refused were Bath. Croydon, Dartford, Exeter, Gloucester, Harrogate, Ipswich, Milton Keynes, Norwich, Oxford, Swindon, Telford and York, Proposals for casinos in the London districts of Redbridge and Docklands were also rejected.

Mr Howarth, responding to a parliamentary question, added: "We may wish to make proposals for a small number of additional areas in the future. There would need to be a good case on population grounds and any proposal would also need local authority and public propriate to designate so many support."



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Fear of civil war racks **East Timor**

THE NOBEL laureate Bishop By DANIEL ZIV Carlos Belo has urged a UN observer to postpone a visit to East Timor amid reports from colony in 1976, making it Inresidents yesterday of rising tension in the Indonesian-ruled

Bishop Belo, the charismatic spiritual leader of East an escalation in anti-Indonesian Timor, was quoted by the official Antara news agency yesterday as saying the planned visit next week by the UN envoy Jamsheed Marker could further inflame passions. "I request Ambassador Jamsheed Marker to postpone his visit, because the political situation and social unruliness are heating up in anticipation of his arrival. It is barely possible to rein in the pro- and anti-integration

groups." Bishop Belo said it would be better for Mr Marker to postpone his arrival to September or October. "What is the use of his visit if the East Timorese donesian army had stepped up patrols in Dili in an apparent attempt to prevent fresh protests before tomorrow's anniversary of Jakarta's annexation of the former Portuguese

donesia's 27th province. Thousands of non-Timorese Indonesians have fled East Timor in recent weeks, fearing

Rumours of imminent riots Timorese capital, Dili, with parture. hundreds of refugees reported to have boarded ships and buses en route to their home provinces. East Timor's Governor, Abilio Jose Osoario Soares, appealed for calm and apologised to those who had fled. The exodus was further spurred by allegations of death-threats against non-indigenous

Last week a visit to East Timor by a fact-finding delegation of three European ampeople themselves are in con-flict?" Residents said the In-donesian army had stepped up

> East Timorese pro-independence activists have stepped up their often ailing struggle with a renewed vigour

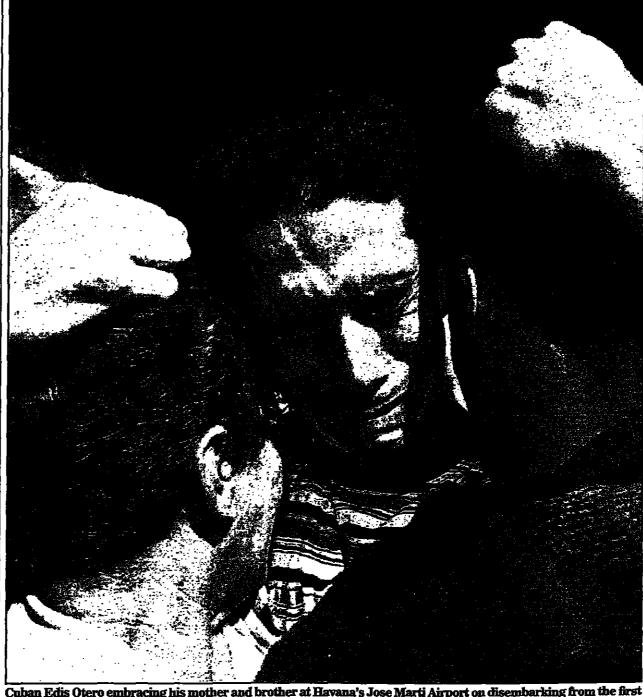
since President Suharto's resignation eight weeks ago. The prospect of new opportunities and openness under the reform-minded government of President BJ Habibie has given fresh hope to separatist groups.

Activists in East Timor are demanding a referendum to determine the future of the territory, which was annexed a have caused panic in the East vear after the Portugal's de-

> President Habibie and Indonesia's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Ali Alatas, have rejected the referendum idea on the grounds that it would deepen political divisions within the province and lead to further vi-Mr Alatas recently floated a

proposal for East Timorese aumomy which would exclude the areas of defence, taxation and foreign relations. The Indonesian military this

week issued a stern warning to pro-independence activists against raising the flag of Fretilin, the territory's separatist guerrilla movement. Indonesia's East Timor military commander promised tough action against any protesters waving a non-Indonesian flag.



Cuban Edis Otero embracing his mother and brother at Havana's Jose Marti Airport on disembarking from the first aircraft out of Miami after direct flights from the United States were resumed yesterday

Canadian Press Photo

McDonald, father of fast food, dies at 89

RICHARD "DICK" McDonald, the man who, with his brother. is credited with inventing fast food, has died aged 89.

His legacy, the McDonald's Corporation, based in the Chicago suburb of Illinois, said that Mr McDonald died of natural causes.

Hoping to capitalise on the growing number of young families and an expanding roadway system in the post-war years, Dick and his brother, Maurice "Mac" McDonald, created a selfservice, drive in restaurant in the late Forties in San Bernardino, California. The menu featured 15-cent hamburgers, 19-cent cheese burgers, 20-cent malts and 10-cent french fries. It proved a winning formula.

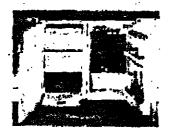
In 1961, the McDonald brothers sold their proprietary rights in the business to Ray Kroc, and the modern Mc-Donald's was born. There are now 23,000 McDonald's restaurants in 111 countries.

Dick McDonald was known as a marketing whiz, having devised the famous golden arches and the "Millions Served" signs, while his brother Mac was known as the restaurant operations specialist.

In 1952, the American Restaurant Magazine ran a cover story on the phenomenal success of the brothers' venture. The McDonald brothers proceeded to franchise and open, in the West, eight of the new concept drive-ins they had originated.

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US set to veto new world court

AFTER FOUR years, an effort to By RUPERT CORNWELL establish a credible international criminal court was on the brink of collapse last night, as the United States warned that a last ditch compromise proposal would be "unacceptable" to itself and countries repre-

senting two thirds of the world's population. For a month, a United Nations conference in Rome has a permanent Nuremberg mechanism, to try war crimes and even the compromise package, put forward by the conference's

Canadian chairman 48 hours

before the conference's sched-

uled end tomorrow now seems doomed to failure. At a press conference yesterday, the chief US delegate, David Scheffer, predicted that governments whose citizens make up at least two thirds of the world's population" would oppose the new text. For Wash-

ington the sticking point, as

countenance UN prosecutors with the power to bring cases against US soldiers and peace-But this stance, reflecting

both Pentagon fears and the visgressional Republicans to any court with more than token been trying to finalise a draft authority, places Washington in treaty setting up what would be an extraordinary diplomatic position - at odds with traditional allies like Britain, Canade focto alliance with Russia China, India not to mention old foes like Iraq, Libya and Iran, notoriously indifferent to international human rights considerations

Not surprisingly, human rights groups were outraged by the US stand. "This is bloodcurdling stuff, it's a naked threat by the US to walk out at a critical moment, and exert maximum pressure to have its

Rights Watch said. "But better they do walk out than have the others accept a crippled court."

The two critical issues are: the independence of the prosecutor (who, the US says, should only be able to act on cases initiated by individual states or the Security Council) ceral opposition of many Con- and "consent", whereby countries directly involved in a case must give their approval before a prosecution goes ahead. Critics say this proviso means that offenders like Pol Pot and Saddam Hussein could never be

Supporters of a strong court including the 60-odd "like-minded" countries now must make an excruciating choice; either cave in to the US and accept the lowest common denominator solution; or press on and risk, as Mr Scheffer warned, rejection by the world's most populous countries. Idealism drives them in one direction. The knowledge that no court would be workable without the US proway," Richard Dicker of Human pels them in quite another.

Boules hopes for a level playing field

By JOHN LICHFIELD in Paris

FORGET FOOTBALL. After the fervent scenes of Sunday and Monday, France has reverted to two of its more traditional sports: pétanque and protectionism. Scarcely noticed by the rest of the planet, the finals of the World Cup of petanque, or boules, was being played last night in Marseilles.

They were delayed until this week "so as not to overshadow the football version".

At the same time, the French have announced stringent measures to control an influx of defective, "treacherous", exploding and, above all, cheap boules from China and other parts of Asia.

The humble boule has been given its own trading standard or "Norme Française". To be sold legally in France, boules must be constructed of thick. pure steel, have no blemishes or solder marks and must (crucially) be hollow. Many of the imports flooding the French market from Asia are made of thin alloys and stuffed with earth, sand, clay or mercury to bring them up to the throwing

One unfortunate consequence is that they fail, when striking other boules, to make the satisfying clunking sound which, according to some ac-



Boules: finals delayed so as not to eclipse World Cup

counts, gives pétanque its name. The Asian invaders also have a tendency to explode on impact, showering players with shrapnel

The French market for boules (80 per cent of the world market) is dominated by two companies, Obut and Boules

JB, near Saint-Etienne. They produce five million boules a year and remain overwhelmingly in control. Howeyer, Asian imports have been knocking their products off the "piste". Some 10 per cent of boules sold to ordinary weekend pétanque players now come from abroad. Andre Depuy, director-general of Obut, and president of the as-

turers, said French companies did not object to fair competition, but an influx of dangerous boules would give the sport a bad name. Only the finest, French-made boules were permitted at the 20 "boulodromes" in Marseilles, which have been hosting the world championships this week.

More than 10,000 French players have competed in teams of three with contenders from 12 other countries, including Britain, Japan and the

The result was expected late last night but the outcome is certain to be another triumph for France. By yesterday afternoon, only French teams were left in the contest.

McDonald father of dies at 89

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Tre I in confusion to the confusion to t Business EVERYONE RESPONDS TO A LETTER.



Chinese lift embargo on Taiwan flights

CHAOS AT the cargo terminal in BY STEPHEN VINES Hong Kong's new airport and a ground-breaking trip to Taiwan by a member of the Chinese government have combined to produce an unexpected thaw in relations between the two countries, which both claim to be China.

The problems at Hong Kong airport have prompted a tentative move to establish direct flights from Taiwan to an airport on the Chinese mainland. The Taiwan government has

begun to allow cargo planes to fly direct to Shenzhen airport which is close to the Hong

This breaks a five decades long embargo on direct flights between Taiwan and China. All air traffic between the two states had been rooted through. Hong Kong and, more recently, via the new Macau airport in the Portuguese enclave.

Direct flights between Taiwan and China are on the agenda for talks, but formal negotiations between the two sides have been stalled for the past 30 months following China's protests over Taiwan President Lee Teng-hui's "unofficial" visit to the United

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route from Taipei, the Taiwanese capital, to Shenzhen is being opened on a permanent

A tentative move to open direct shipping links between the two states began in January 1997, but remains limited as the bulk of shipping cargoes still pass through Hong Kong. Meanwhile Zhu Lilan,

China's minister of science and technology, has become the first serving cabinet member to visit Taiwan since 1949.

To preserve the niceties she was invited in her capacity as a Beijing University professor to attend a seminar on technology research exchanges between China and Taiwan.

underestimate, Official government-to-government meetings are very rare. All negotiations between the two sides of the Taiwan Strait are conducted by semi-official bodies whose activities can be disowned if need be.

It seems unlikely that the air making the kind of concessions

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acceptable to the Taiwan.

However, the political sig-nificance of the visit is hard to cured from the Clinton visit and is likely to complicate the meaningful resumption of talks on cross-Straits relations.

assumption of direct ties bewan and China still flounder.

Indeed, the Chinese hardline position was bolstered by President Clinton's recent visit to Peking where he spelt out the famous "three nos" of United States policy. He stressed that America did

not support independence for Taiwan; was against any solution which created "two Chinas"; and would oppose Taiwanese membership of international organisations like the United Nations. The Americans insist that

Mr Clinton's statement does not represent a change of policy. However, Taipei had urged the Americans not to encourage Peking by spelling out its opposition to any moves that might allow Taiwan to function as a normal sovereign state.

This is why it is possible to

have a breakthrough ministerial visit and a move toward the China is now piling on the , tween the two countries while pressure for a resumption of broader attempts to negotiate cross-Straits talks, but without better relations between Tai-



South Vietnamese executioner dies

NGUYEN NGOC Loan, the South BY DALE HOPPER Vietnamese general whose summary execution of a bound prisoner was depicted in a photograph (above) that stunned the world three decades ago, has died. He was 67.

Mr Loan died of cancer on

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Tuesday at his home in Washington DC in the United States. his daughter Nguyen Anh said. The photo by Eddie Adams of General Loan aiming a pis-

tol at the prisoner's head mo-

ments before the trigger was begun the Tet Offensive south- bound, onto a street corner, pulled on 1 February 1968, became a haunting image of the Vietnam War. It won a Pulitzer prize for Associated Press.

At the time, the general was head of South Vietnam's police. The North Vietnamese had

ward, the previous month and Loan's police were trying to rid the South Vietnamese capital. Saigon, of Viet Cong guerrillas. Shortly after Mr Adams and

drew his handgun and shot him in the head. The general told the journalists that the prisoner was a known Viet Cong captain. General Loan fled South Vietnam in 1975, the year Comster

nter

gears

other journalists arrived, Gen-eral Loan led the prisoner, hands **Hong Kong steers** clear of democracy

AT THE best of times Hong By STEPHEN VINES Kong's Legislative Council is slightly surreal. Yesterday surrealism reached new heights as members overwhelmingly voted down a resolution suggesting that the legislature should be democratically elected in 2000 and that the head of government should also be elected two years later.

"We should not fantasise about the magic of democracy," said Bernard Chan, who represents one of the most rotten of the rotten boroughs which represents the insurance Basic Law, a review will be held industry which has only 193 eligible voters.

Those elected by direct election in geographical constituencies needed literally hundreds of thousands of votes to secure their place in the chamber. Lee Cheuk-yan, one of the directly elected members. bluntly explained the difficulties in Hong Kong

of the task facing those asking the rotten borough representatives to give up their seats. It's like a first class passenger being asked to travel economy, he said, or "like asking a tiger to give its skin to us". The tigers nodded in agree-

ment. However no one actually said universal franchise was a bad idea nor that democracy was necessarily a bad thing.

After all under Hong Kong's uni-constitution, called the in 2007 which might, just might, result in the establishment of universal suffrage.

Spelling out the government's opposition to any acceleration of this programme was Michael Suen, the constitutional affairs secretary. Mr Suen is very much the bu-

He made it clear that he was all in favour of democracy but there were many problems. For example his department was already preparing for elections in 2000 and it would be difficult to make new arrangements; moreover any changes had to "studied in depth", which would take at

least 10 years. The clinching argument was that if all seats in the legislature were directly elected, "sooner or later the legislature is likely to have a majority party". cause Hong Kong was supposed to have an executive-led

government "No one can guarantee that a majority party will always support the government," Mr Suen said. "If so, what will happen to the administration?" The idea that the executive arm of government might also be elected seemed not to occur to him.

Sultan hands out huge gifts despite his woes

BY STEVE CRAWSHAW

HE HAS had a terrible few weeks. First he woke up to find that, with only \$36bn (£22bn) to his name, he was no longer deemed to be the world's richest man (that mantle has passed to Bill Gates).

Then his younger brother's ousiness empire was reported to have collapsed, with losses of billions of pounds. Given such problems, the least a man can do is to celebrate his birthday in style. So the Sultan of Brunei de-

cided to do just that. To mark his 52nd birthday yesterday he announced that all government employees would receive pay rises of up to 14 per cent, costing \$600,000 across the board. This reflected his call for "prudence" and "austerity measures", after fireworks and a military parade. The Sultan made no mention

of the collapsed Amedeo Development Corporation, run by Jefri (owner of 600 cars, and a able crime to reveal the cur-



tasteful collection of bits and pieces including a fim pair of simulated-copulating gold pens and a couple of speedboats called Nipple 1 and Nipple 2) In a television address the

Sultan went so far as to speak of a "period of economic turmoil" in South-East Asia, noting that "our country is not spared from feeling the effects". This counts as radical glasnost in a country where the government budget is a his younger brother Prince state secret and it is a punish-

his 1,788-room palace, the Sultan - a polo-playing partner of the Prince of Wales - made it clear that pessimism was not on the agenda in Brunei. He declared: "Whatever has

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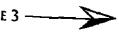
been experienced, or is being experienced by the country, is all history."
The Sultan, whose proper

ties across the world include the Dorchester Hotel on Park Lane, has always had a penchant for lavish gestures. On his fiftieth birthday he treated his subjects to a concert by Michael Jackson, specially flown in. Brunei has a high standard of living but has suffered from a 40 per cent slump in the price of oil, which has been almost entirely responsible for its wealth. Yesterday the Sultan was still determined to celebrate. Fireworks and a parade kicked off the traditional month-long celebration to mark his birthday. He himself drove through the parade in a Land Rover, seated on gold-velvet cushions and shaded by an attendant with a parasol.

DAVID AARONOVITCH

"So miserly did Mr Maude seem, that my daughters have become convinced that he is really called Frances Maude, and that he is Pollyanna's mean-spirited cousin"

- THE THURSDAY REVIEW. PAGE 3



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Teenagers who stand in the way of the Shining Path

FRONTLINE

HUAMANGA

MORGAN MAGALLANES and trying to rearm. They are bad Victor Rondinel are in many for the people," Rondinel says. ways typical teenagers. They enjoy hanging around together when they are not working, highlands for most of the and when they have extra time and money, a quick trip selting them up for repressus from their small home town to by the country's armed forces.

In their case, this journey takes them from Tambillo to Huamanga, the capital of Ayacucho, in Peru's central

The similarities stop there. Magallanes, 16, and Rondinel, 19, are seasoned fighters in Peru's internal conflict that pits the government against the Manist Shining Path. The young men are mem-

bers of Tambillo's civil defence patrol, known as rondos, which have been a frontline defence against Shining Path guerrillas since the late 1980s. We are fighting terrorism. The Shining Path could come

back at any minute; they are

Shining Path guerrillas ran

rampant over Peru's central 1980s, terrorising villagers and setting them up for reprisals

itary accepted Shining Path's claim that the campesinos were ripe for revolution and did not give a second thought to wiping out whole villages believed to support the Maoist agenda.

The guerrillas were dealt a near fatal blow in 1992 with the capture of their leader, Abimael Guzman, and many onceconvulsed areas such as Ayacucho are now experiencing peace. Local residents and stu-

dents of the Shining Path, however, fear that the group is involved in a new campaign to recruit and rearm. David Scott Palmer, an

Huamanga 🖲 👸 AVACUCHO Pacific

American academic who first taught at the San Cristobal University in Huamanga in the early 1960s, is back as a visiting Fulbright scholar. He has been studying the Shining Path for years and says that the guerrilla group, although wounded, is not yet dead. The question is not when

will the Shining Path come manga's square for their sevback, but how. I think you can enth annual meeting. Military brass, city officials write off the MRTA (Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Moveand Ayacucho Archbishop

fight them until the end."

annual show of force.

Armed with antiquated

shotguns, sling shots and

homemade rifles, the ronderos

paraded recently around Hua-

Juan Luis Cipriani were there ment, a small armed group), but I don't think you can write to applaud the fighters. "The off the Shining Path, They are country has a debt to the rondas. They helped restore peace to the nation," Cipriani in the midst of an internal struggle and I think a more moderate faction will prevail."

Victor Rondinel says he is The rondos have a chenot afraid, because the ronquered history in their war deros are prepared. "We will against the Shining Path. One of the earliest examples of ef-Magallanes and Rondinel forts to get communities orwere among hundreds of ronganised to fight the Shining Path was blamed for the masderos from Ayacucho and sacre of eight journalists in the neighbouring areas who congregated in Huamanga for an high Ayacuchan town of Uchu-

> No one is quite sure what led the civil defence patrol to kill the journalists, but the murders gave the nascent movement a negative image that took years to overcome. "If it wasn't for Uchuraccay the ronderos would have ex-

Relatives of Shining Path prisoners rally in protest

panded much earlier to fight said were growing food for the Shining Path. Because of the Shining Path. When the what happened there we were delayed nearly five years," said Pompei Javier Rivera, better known in Peru as Commander Huayhuaco.

As a leader of the one of the first rondas organised to fight the subversives, Huayhuaco led of group of men in 1988 on

smoke cleared, the ronderos had decimated the crops and many of the supposed rebels.

The action brought Huayhuaco one of his many run-ins with Peru's military. While praised by some sectors as a defender of democracy, he has also been attacked for committing a series of human says.

rights violations, including murder, as well as involvement in drug trafficking. He spent three years in prison.

Huayhuaco's present relationship with the military reflects the changing image Peru's armed forces have had toward the ronderos. The commander has been rejected and accepted several times by the

military over the years. "It took time, but the military came around to the idea that civil participation was necessary to defeat terrorism. The peace we enjoy today is the fruit of the military and civilians working together."

However, it may be time to demilitarise the rondos. He says they are getting tired of carrying weapons and want to return to farming.

"Our hope is that we can exchange our weapons for tools. Subversion will never return if the people have work," he

Mystery hunter appears in the "outback

AUSTRALIAN POLICE are investigating a massive drawing of an Aboriginal hunter (right) that suddenly appeared on a remote patch of desert outback in a mystery reminiscent of Britain's "corn circles".

No one has so far claimed responsibility for the 2.5-milelong outline drawn into the dust near Finniss Springs in the north of the state of South Australia.

Locals from the nearby township of Marree think that the figure was carved using a olough, possibly pulled by a tractor, but there are no wheel marks at the site.

From the air, the outline shows what appears to be an Aboriginal man holding a spear. Police have found a number of clues, including what is believed to be a satellite photograph of the figure, a small US flag and a note believed to refer to the Branch Davidian

ruit in the US. Ray Goss. a local resident. told the The Australian newspaper that he and a group of friends found the etching after anonymous directions were faxed to the Marree hotel last

The fax claimed the drawing "is the world's largest work of art". It is five times the size of the largest human figure at the famous Nazca site in Peru.

Local policeman Paul Liersch said the etching may be an attempt to lure tourists. He said the creators were probably from close to home. "I found toilet paper out there so, if it has been done from space, they're fairly much like us."

The state Aboriginal Affairs Department said today it will investigate the figure.



In Brief

UN may have to quit Afghanistan after Taliban steps up pressure

THE UNITED NATIONS may have to withdraw its workers from Afghanistan. The UN envoy there, Lakhdar Brahimi. said the ruling Taliban are violating a May agreement with unacceptable restrictions on aid workers. The strictly Islamic Taliban recently forced aid workers in Kabul to move to abandoned dormitories for "security precautions". The Taliban have forced girls out of schools and women out of jobs.

Russian hopes for IMF bail-out

THE RUSSIAN Duma met in a special session vesterday and passed some of the laws sought by the government to secure a promised multi-billion-dollar bail-out from global creditors. The board of the International Monetary Fund may approve on 20 July the first \$6bn tranche of the overall funding package agreed on Monday. But its agreement is at least partially conditional on Duma approval of austerity measures.

European Parliament poll reform

THE EUROPEAN Parliament took a small step vesterday towards fulfilling a 40-year-old democratic dream, agreeing on a proposal for its 627 members to be elected in a similar way. "We are going one step further towards implementing the [1957] Treaty of Rome, which called for a uniform electoral procedure for the European Parliament," said a Dutch member, Gijs de Vries. A separate demand was made this week for members to be paid the same amount.

US Hispanic community growing

IN THE United States, the Hispanic community will be the largest minority group within seven years, and will outnumber all other minorities by 2050, the Census Bureau said. Hispanics and blacks make up about 15 per cent of children in the US, with Hispanics concentrated in the west and south-west. One in four of the foreign-born population of the US (about seven million), were born in Mexico and half in Central or South America or the Caribbean,

Troops to quell Zulu clashes

BY EMELIA SITHOLE in Johannesburg

SOUTH AFRICA began to flood troops into the province of KwaZulu-Natal yesterday to contain an explosion of violence between rival parties already eyeing next year's second democratic election. Sydney Mufamadi, the Safety

and Security Minister, told South African radio that the government had asked the army to double the number of soldiers in the town of Richmond, 500 kilometres south-east of Johannesburg, to 240. Another 240 policemen would be deployed following the transfer of some policemen suspected of but also in the whole province." collusion in the violence. "We

required." said Mr Mulamadi. An estimated 24 people have been killed in the past 10 days in a fresh outbreak of violence in the province, where turf wars between the African National Congress (ANC) and its arch-foe, the Inkatha Freedom

Party (TFP), have divided the Zulu population for 14 years. Around 14,000 people died in KwaZulu Natal in the decade to 1994 in conflict mainly between the ANC and the IFP. The fight-

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ing has subsided since, but now seems to be threatening to flare anew in the lush hillside villages as a third party enters the battle for political turf.
The ANC, which failed to win

control of the province in the country's first all-race elections in 1994, has accused the newly established United Democratic Movement (UDM) of fanning the violence around Richmond

"Political parties are going to start campaigning and unless measures are taken to ensure that politics of intimidation don't become more important than democratic processes, we could see a major escalation of the conflict not only in Richmond said Jenni Irish, of the non-gov will deploy as many people as ernmental Network of Independent Violence Monitors.

The UDM - formed as a breakaway from President Nelson Mandela's ANC after it ousted one of the new party's key leaders - denies causing the violence, saying the ANC is at fault. The UDM is headed in KwaZulu-Natal by Sifiso Nkabinde, who called himself an ANC "warlord" until he was expelled from the party last year amid allegations he spied for the police under apartheid.

US right campaigns to 'convert' gays

A COALITION of conservative By MARY DEJEVSKY and religious organisations has launched a new campaign homosexuality. capitalising on what appears to be a hardening of anti-gay sentiment in Congress in the run-up to mid-term elections in

In a new departure, however, the campaign eschews fire and brimstone rhetoric in favour of compassion and an all-American confidence in the capacity of individuals to change.

Newspaper advertisements running this week in major dailies are headed: "Toward a new national discussion of homosexuality." "We're standing for the truth that homosexuals can change," the advert says, praising prominent figures in politics, showbusiness and sport for "having the courage to speak the truth about sexu-

Affecting more sorrow than

in Washington

passion and concern." The second carries a picture of Reggie White, the black football star and minister, over the headline: "In defense of free speech". Without free speech, the advert says, we might never have learned "the truth about the non-genetic roots of homosexuality" or that "thousands are leaving their homosexual identity for sexual celibacy, and

Christian calling to show com-

even marriage.'

ries says: "Most Christians who speak out against homosexual behaviour are motivated more by love than hate. Of course. 'hate' gets all the headlines, but we believe every human being is precious to God and is entitled to respect. But when we see great suffering among homosexuals, it's an inherent

Gay groups hit back yester-

in the same format and in the same newspapers.

Headed "Towards hope and healing for America", it shows a happy trio - parents and daughter - with the legend: "We're living proof that families with lesbian and gay kids can be whole, happy and worthy of all that this great country promises.

Its underlying argument is that homosexuals are no less family and church-orientated than any other American.

The upsurge in the debate can be dated to a calculated outburst from the Senate Majority Leader, Trent Lott, last month, when he grouped homosexuals with alcoholics, kieptomaniacs and sex addicts as people who are sick and can be cured - but only if they want

He had been criticised by the conservative right for giving President Bill Clinton too easy day with an advert of their own a ride on moral issues and not

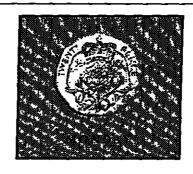
being forceful enough on issues like abortion - and homosexu-

With the slight possibility that the Republicans could lose control of the Senate in November, Mr Lott (and his Conssmen) need the support of the influential, and wealthy.

conservative right. So far this year it has blocked payment of US debts to the UN (over funding for Third World birth control) and the appointment of Mr Clinton's nomince to be ambassador to Luxembourg, James Hormal, who is gay.

Any anti-gay campaign, however, holds political risks for the

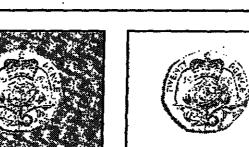
Polls indicate that the mood of the country is not as stridently anti-homosexual as it used to be, and that - at least in some parts of the country witch-hunts against particular groups stand to alienate as many voters as they attract.







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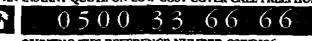
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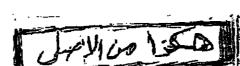
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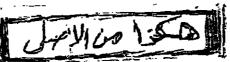
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BUSINESS

BRIEFING

Paris seeks to join Euro alliance

THE PARIS stock exchange is considering linking up with other bourses - including the New York Stock Exchange in an attempt to rival the recently-announced alliance between the London Stock Exchange and Frankfurt's Deutsche Börse, according to French newspaper reports. Last week, the London Stock Exchange and the Deutsche Borse surprised the financial markets by announcing they were to join forces and develop a single European stock

Rolf Breuer, chairman of Deutsche Bank and president of the Deutsche Borse, has said that the success of the London-Frankfurt alliance depends on the involvement of other European stock exchanges. The Belgian stock exchange and the Dutch exchange have already signalled that they are keen to join the London-Frankfurt

Photo-Me drives forward



Shares in Photo-Me International, Britain's largest operator of photo booths, rose sharply yesterday after the company disclosed the potential impact of the new photocard driving licences. The shares rose 38.5p to 372.5p as the company, headed by Peter Ogbourne (left), said the new licences could create demand for 40,000 more sets of photos

per month rising to over 500,000 a month by mid-1999. The new licences come into force for new drivers passing their tests next month. Investment column, page 21

Market Wizard wound up

The DTI has sent in the Official Receiver to wind up Market Wizard Systems, the first-ever company to be closed down because it offered a software system to the public which gave investment advice without being authorised to do so. Mr Justice Carnwath vesterday approved the petition brought by the DTI under section 124A of the Insolvency Act 1986, which enables it to liquidate companies in the public interest. Wizard actively marketed and sold to individuals and companies a software analysis programme, "the MWS system," which generated buy and sell prompt signals for options traded on Liffe in 12 blue chip stocks. This meant Wizard was offering investment advice, the DTI said.

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FTSE 100	DOW JONES	NUKKEI
6200	9300	16800
6100	9200	75600
6000	9100	15200
5900 F M T W	9000 - T W	16000 T F M T W
		nes ladex and graph at Spm

INDICES											
lodex	Gose	Change	Change(%)	52 wk Mgb	52 wk loss Y	leid (%)					
FTSE 100	6151,50	51.30	0.84	6150.50	4382,80	3.72					
FTSE 250	5697.70	39.60	0.70	5970.90	4421,60	3.35					
FTSE 350	2955.70	23.90	0.82	2940.10	2141,80	3.66					
FTSE Ali Share	2873.60	22.21	0.78	2872.04	2106.59	3.63					
FTSE SmallCap	2581.60	4.80	0.19	2793.80	2182.10	3.22					
PTSE Fledgling	1414.50	2.10	0.15	1517.10	1225.20	3.38					
FTSE AIM	1092,80	-2.30	-0.21	1146.90	965,90	1.19					
FTSE EBLOC 100	1108.40	7.49	0.68								
Dow Jones	9240.91	-8.24	-0.09	9261.91	6971.32	1.58					
Nikkei	16614.14	125.23	0.76	20698.67	14488.21	0.92					
Hang Seng	8456.22	277.29	3.39	16820.31	7351.68	4.84					
Dax	6108.24	12.96	0.21	6096 46	3487,24	2.65					

INTEREST RATES UK 10 YEAR GILT



MO	1	BOND YIELDS						
L _m des.	3 moath	Yr chg	1 Year	Yr chg	10 year	Yr chg	Long bond	Yr chg
UK	7.77	0.75	7,91	0.42	5.87	-1.23	5.45	-1.60
ŲS	5.69	-0.06	5.81	-0.22	5.46	-89.93	5.69	-0.85
Japan	0.64	0.07	0.66	-0.14	1.72	-0.85	2.26	-0 80
Germany	3.54	0.39	3.81	0.46	4 68	-0.95	5.31	-1.12

CURRENCIES

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1 635-			2.98 2.96 2.94	A T	23°)———			
	POI	ND Change	Yr Ago		ے ت	LLAR	Yr Ago		
Dollar	1.6340	-0.36c		Sterling:	0.6120	_ <u> </u>	0.5967		
D-Mark	2 9415		3.0713	D-Mark	1 2017		1.8035		

OTHER INDICATORS

1				_				
Brent Oil	S) 12 08	0.36	18.20	GDP	114 80	_3 00	111 46	Aug
Gold (\$) Silver (\$)								
Silver (\$)	5.32	-0.01	4 28	Base	Rates		7 50	6.75
1								'as See

229.89 + ¥0 86 194.22 Yen

0.00 705 10 \$ index

School Thomas Cook

140.69 +#0.81 115 68

112 70 +0 00 103 88

SOURCE: BLOOMBERG

TOURIST RATES

Australia (S)	<u> 2.5414</u>	Mexican (nuevo peso)	13.32
Austria (schillings)	20.07	Netherlands (guilders)	3.2198
Belgium (francs)	59.02	New Zealand (S)	3.0018
Canada (\$)	2.3632	Norway (krone)	12.22
Cyprus (pounds)	0.8356	Portugal (escudos)	290 11
Denmark (krone)	10.96	Saudi Arabia (rials)	5.9641
Finland (markka)	8,7429	Singapore (5)	2.6466
France (francs)	9.5802	Spain (pesetas)	242.07
Germany (marks)	2.8695	South Africa (rands)	9.4963
Greece (drachma)	472.66	Sweden (krone)	12.82
Hong Kong (5)	12.30	Switzerland (francs)	2.4158
ireland (punts)	1,1337	Thailand (bahts)	60.92
indian (rupees)	64.09	Turkey (lirasi)	424037
Israel (shekels)	5.5377	USA (S)	1.5989
Italy (lira)	2830		
Japan (ven)	225.59	False for a 2010, in page	con ce
Malaysia (nnggirs)	6.5091		

Shares shrug off concerns over pay, jobs and rates

- PricewaterhouseCoopers warns of £20bn deficit in 2001/02
- MPC worries that quarter-point hike will not be enough
- Brown stresses spending plans assume cautious growth estimates

THE STOCK MARKET yester- By LEA PATERSON day shrugged off renewed fears of an interest-rate rise to close at a record high. However, the pound strengthened against the Deutschmark after official

In April, UK headline average earnings grew by 5.4 per cent, the fastest rate of growth since September 1992. The unexpected jump in earnings growth - which was partly due to increased bonus payments came despite new evidence of increasing unemployment.

figures revealed continued

Figures released by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) showed that the claimant count - one measure of unemployment - rose again in June for the second month in the row and was 700 higher than in May, In May, 4,300 more people were claiming benefits than in April, the ONS said. This was the first time the UK had seen a rise in the claimant count in successive months since November and December 1992.

The stronger-than-expected increase in average earnings renewed fears that the Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) could raise rates again at next month's meeting. Richard Iley at ABN Amro commented: "These data may well panic the MPC into a final touch on the monetary brakes. More importantly, they once again underline that any talk of falling rates is prema-

Market sentiment was not helped by the publication of the minutes of the June MPC meet-

mittee surprised both industry and the City by putting up in-terest rates by 0.25 points to 7.5 per cent

The minutes highlighted strong growth in UK earnings. concerns about the rate of growth in earnings and the impact of the exchange rate on inflation. They also show that the MPC feared that the 0.25-point rate hike in June would not be sufficient to choke off demand. According to the minutes -

which showed that the MPC voted eight-to-one in favour of raising rates by 0.25 points: "The question was raised (at the June meeting as to whether a quarter-point rise in rates would prove sufficient, particularly if the spike in headline RPI inflation fed through to earnings growth."

As was widely anticipated in the City, Dr DeAnne Julius, the former British Airways chief economist, was the only MPC member to vote against the rate hike. Dr Julius proposed that rates should be cut. the minutes of the MPC meeting revealed.

Interest-rate hike fears were also fuelled by worries about the impact of the Chancellor's expenditure plans on the economy.

The Chancellor plans to increase total expenditure by 2.75 per cent in real terms each year for the next three years, with the lion's share of the extra going to health and education. Critics of the plans have expressed concerns that if the Chancellor's economic forecasts prove to be too optimistic, ing - the month when the com- the budget deficit could be far



Yesterday Gordon Brown defended his spending plans before MPs on the Treasury Select Committee, with whom he is pictured above. The Chancellor said the plans were based on 'cautious' forecasts

currently predicting.

PricewaterhouseCoopers yesterday warned that if there is a hard landing in the UK -that is, if growth slows very sharply - the budget deficit in 2001/02 could approach £20bn. The Treasury, by contrast, is predicting that its books will balance in 2001/02, and Mr Brown yesterday defended his plans in front of MPs on the Treasury Select Committee. saying they were based on

In his Select Committee appearance, the Chancellor took the opportunity to drive home the dangers of overly-generous

tract, while Treasury officials

Ministers are thought to

are understood to be consider-

want to abandon the project and

instead pay Social Security

benefits direct into bank ac-

counts through automatic cred-

it transfer. This would make a

bigger dent in the £4bn benefit

fraud bill that the taxpayer

foots every year. But it could

ing legal action against ICL.

"cautious" forecasts.

TURN OUT TO BE TOO OPTIMISTIC? Public sector net borrowing, £bn Treasury central projection PwC hard landing scenario 2000/01

risk of an interest-rate rise tomorrow, and that was exactly the position the Bank of England took last month. It is quite pay awards. He fold MPs: "A clear to me that wages in the wage rise today could mean the private sector have been rising

the increase in March.

Despite the fears about the inflationary impact of the earnings data and the Chancellor's spending plans, the FTSE 100 powered ahead - spurred on by positive sentiment in global markets - and finished the day up 51.3 at 6,151.5, a record close. The index was as high as 6,179.8 earlier yesterday, but softened slightly following the publication of the earnings data.

grew by 6.2 per cent in April -

this was 0.1 points higher than

The pound proved to be more sensitive to changes in interest-rate expectations than the FTSE. Sterling finished the day up 0.4 pfennigs at DM

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PO plea on £1bn card scheme 2,000 jobs in

POST OFFICE executives yes- BY MICHAEL HARRISON terday urged the Government not to abandon a £1bn scheme to automate Social Security benefit payments amid signs that the troubled project will be shelved this autumn.

The project, designed to stamp out benefit fraud by replacing girocheques and pension books with electronic swipe cards, is two years behind schedule and over budget. Pathway a consortium led by

the information technology group ICL has invested £125m on the project, but the system is only in operation in 210 of the Post Office's 19,000 outlets.

John Roberts, chief executive of the Post Office, insisted vesterday that the roll-out of the system was continuing suc-

ANDREW WINCKLER, former

chief executive of the Securities

and Investments Board, was

given a golden goodbye of

£288,000 when he left the regu-

lator in January, it has emerged.

Winckler for loss of office fol-

lowing the launch of the new

regulator, the Financial Ser-

The pay-off was given to Mr

writes Andrew Verity.

cessfully. Asked whether he feared it might be scrapped, he said: "I hope not. We have a very strong view that this is the right way forward and we have made that clear."

Mr Roberts was speaking as the Post Office unveiled record profits of £651m last year, but warned that its financial performance would not be sustained unless the Government gave it commercial freedom

Describing Pathway as a "good project and a good com-mercial deal," he said that both the Post Office and ICL were nleased with the system. However, there are reports

that ICL may sue the Govern-

vices Authority. It brings his total pay and compensation for

10 months' work to \$499,670 -

more than the rest of the FSA's

The news will reignite a row

Top executives have been

able to reap huge rewards when they claimed their terms

over favourable contracts of-

fered to senior regulators.

directors out together.

spell the end for several thousand branch post offices. The Post Office wants to use the smart card not just to dispense Social Security bene-

fits, but for other uses like hanking and insurance services to the payment of utility bills and car road tax. The Post Office beat virtually

of employment have changed. Colette Bowe, former chief

executive of the Personal In-

vestment Authority, received

£281,000 in redundancy pay

when she left in January. Her

total package for the year

then chairman Sir Andrew

Large, was in charge of super-

Mr Winckler, under SIB's

amounted to £477,000.

nancial targets last year, and returned £555m to the Exchequen in the shape of £338m contributed through its External Finance Limit and £217m paid in tax.

Neville Bain, chairman, warned that Post Office services would suffer unless the or ganisation was given real commercial freedom to borrow on the private markets. enter joint ventures and expand The Department of Trade

and Industry is carrying out a review, including the option of floating up to 49 per cent of the Post Office. A decision is due this autumn, but the indications are that the timing is slipping. Outlook, page 17

vising junior regulators as they

carried out the much-criticised

The review, launched in

October 1994, was supposed to

clear up 600,000 urgent cases of

possible misselling by the end

of 1996. However, only a mi-

nority had been reviewed by the

time Labour came to power in

pension misselling review.

BP's 900-strong network. A furveloping the stores. SIB chief's £288,000 golden goodbye

lines, including fruit, vegetables, meat and dairy products. The move is the latest in a

ments by supermarket groups which are keen to add smaller supermarkets on petrol forecourts to their chains. Somerfield revealed an expansion of its deal with Mobil last week and said it was looking for another partner. Tesco said earlier this month

ment if it reneges on the con- all of its productivity and fi- forecourt deal Tesco Express petrol station SAFEWAY, the supermarket

> with BP to create a chain of 100 mini-supermarkets on petrol station forecourts. The move will cost £180m and create 2,000 jobs over the next three or four The decision follows a twoyear pilot programme which has seen BP and Safeway com-

bine operations on seven sites. The roll-out will be undertaken as part of a 50-50 joint venture which Safeway said could generate £700m in extra sales. The joint venture will spend £100m buying 100 sites from

too fast and that people in the

private sector must take a re-

sponsible view to bargaining."

ings figures revealed that head-

line private sector earnings

Yesterday's average earn-

ther £80m will be invested in de-BP and Safeway said each store would offer 3,000 product

series of similar announce-

that it hoped to expand its lower at 384.5p.

group, is extending its link-up network to around 100 sites over the next few years. Analysts said certain retail sites could be prime candidates for Peter Blackhouse, a director

of BP Oil, said: "The performance of the seven trial sites clearly demonstrates that customers value the opportunity to do their top-up shopping in convenient locations. Sales from the sites of both fuel and groceries have exceeded the targets we set for the trial." Colin Smith, Safeway's chief

executive, said the combination of superstore quality and pricing together with longer opening hours had been popular with customers. The leading supermarket

groups such as Tesco and Sainsbury have grabbed a significant share of the petrol market over the last few years by setting up stations at their superstores. But as planning permission for larger out-oftown stores becomes more difficult to obtain, they have been looking at other options offered by smaller, more flexible for-

Safeway shares closed 5p

AROUND THE WORLD'S MARKETS

LONDON

BLUE CHIPS surged to a new high with Footsie closing 51.3 points higher at 6.151.5. At one time it was up almost 80. In two days the index has gained 193.3. Financial shares were again strong, still attracting support ahead of the banks' profit season which gets under way towards the end of the month. Cable & Wireless rose 32p to 842p on expectations it will clinch a deal to buy the internet business of MCI, the US group, and BT rose 14p to 817p following a signalled share buyback after the sale of its MCI stake. Derek Pain, page 21

NEW YORK

US BLUE CHIPS posted marginal gains and technology stocks firmed as investors sifted through an uneven series of earnings reports. The Dow Jones Industrial Average was up six points at 9251 shortly after midday. Eastman Kodak was by far the strongest Dow component, surging after reporting surprisingly strong earnings. The Nasdaq index also rallied 12 points to 1980, extending a record run that has seen the index post five straight all-time highs in a run toward the 2000 level.

TOKYO

STOCKS IN Tokyo closed moderately higher but trading was dominated by a wait-and-see stance ahead of the selection of a replacement for Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto traders said. The key Nikkei 225 average finished with a gain of 125,23 points, or 0.76 per cent, at 16.614.14. The market briefly came under downward pressure as news that Foreign Minister Keizo Obuchi would today announce his candidacy to replace Hashimoto raised concerns. Some traders said market attention was drawn to who will be the new finance minister.

PARIS

A DAY of euphoric trade culminated in the 17th closing high of the year as Paris stocks followed the Dow's strong lead. The blue-chip CAC-40 index closed up 2.07 per cent at 4,344.30. Mid-afternoon, the index reached 1.361.13, just a whisker away from its all-time best of 4,363.22

From kick-off to the final whistle, the bourse sped to catch up with strong US and European markets. France's four-day Bastille weekend inspired World Cup trading fever, some brokers

FRANKFURT

GERMANY'S DAX index surrendered early highs as investors took profits on recent gains, but market sentiment remained buoyant. By the close, the benchmark DAX was only up 4.2 points at 6106.1, after earlier hitting a record high of 6,150.47 points.

"There is no other reason (to fall) than that the market is taking a bit of a breather. It surprised us a bit with how quickly it did come off but we have had a very strong day [on Tuesday] and profits are being taken," one dealer said.

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veniently points in the opposite di-

rection. It was no exception in

1997/98. Profits hit a new high of

Furthermore, record numbers of

them are actually arriving on time.

Post Office's Antipodean chairman.

faction and warns that the good

times cannot last much longer. The

Post Office has grand plans to invest

£2.7bn over the next five years and

it would like to continue the freeze

on letter prices beyond next April

when the Treasury sucks up 90 per

cent of profits through the Exter-

nal Finance Limit (the Exchequer's

version of dividend payments) and

But how can it do any of this

Even Parcelforce, the one blot on



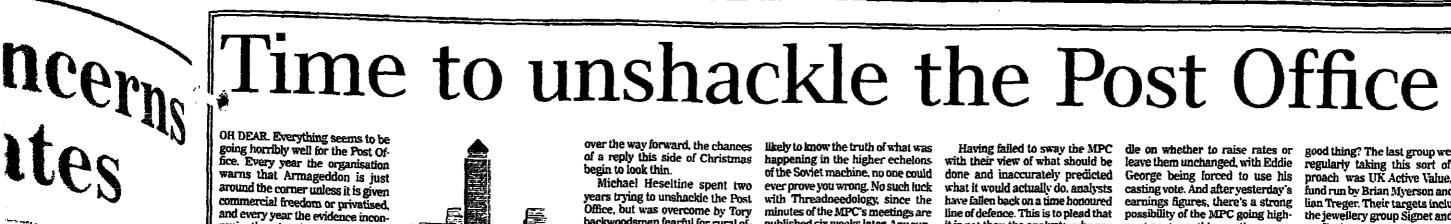
amus.

July.

Dave Marsh, regional officer
for the Amalgamated
Engineering & Electrical

said the company was

Dresdner Bank disputed Fitch IBCA's reasons for cutting the bank's long-term rating to AA from AA+ yesterday, saying it remains highly profitable and plans to expand in Europe. Fitch IBCA said it lowered Dresdner's rating as the bank's ranking in Germany slipped from second to third due to the merger of rivals Hypo-Bank and Vereinsbank Dresdner Kleinwort Benson, the investment banking arm, also lagged its peers. A spokesman for Dresdner said: "There can be no talk of a weak position in Europe. We have built up our position in Italy, Scandinavia and Spain and we will build up business in remaining areas



2551m and the Royal Mail is now handling a record 75 million letters a day. **OUTLOOK**

the landscape, cut its losses and taxation? Mark Mr Bain's words. If would have met its target of breakthe shackles are not loosened, and ing into profit had it not been for the fast, then before the Millennium is lingering effects of the posties' out, your junk mail will be arriving strike action the previous year. Despite all this, Neville Bain, the courtesy of the Dutch and the Germans, while the Post Office will still have to run to Mr Brown every time suppresses his smile of self-satisit wants to invest more than £5m.

Over to the Department of Trade and Industry, where Margaret Beckett and her even less-reconstructed minister, Ian McCartney, say they want to give Mr Bain his commercial freedom, but baulk at the obvious private sector solution.

The DTI has promised it will get back to Mr Bain by the autumn, But with Mr Brown and Mr Blair now in on the act, and apparently at odds

years trying to unshackle the Post Office, but was overcome by Tory backwoodsmen fearful for rural offices. Since the Treasury is milking this cash cow for £550m a year, the temptation to do nothing again must be powerful. Surely only a very big hole in Mr Brown's spending sums would tempt him into anything as radical as a 49 per cent flotation.

The hazards of MPC predicting

LET'S CALL it Threadneedology (any suggestions for a better term much appreciated). This is the study of Monetary Policy Committee decision making - which way the members have voted on interest rates and how they might vote in future. The term is borrowed from the now deceased Western art of trying to figure out what was going on in the Kremlin - Kremlinology.

The parallel is inexact. The beauty of being a Kremlinologist was that as nobody knew or was ever

with Threadneedology, since the minutes of the MPC's meetings are published six weeks later. Any supposed insights, predictions and insider knowledge are thus cruelly exposed eventually to what all too often proves an embarrassing comparison with the truth.

The City gets it wrong on the MPC all the time. It did so spectacularly with June's decision to raise interest rates by 0.25 points. Nor, as we now know, was the vote even close. MPC members voted by eight-to-one to increase rates. Furthermore, they worried whether a

quarter-point would be enough. The mistake cost many securities houses dear. The great bulk of them were wrongfooted in the futures markets as a result. But it is not just the City's highly-paid pundits and economists who are getting it wrong. Post the event, one newspaper (not this one), claimed as an exclusive that David Clementi, deputy governor of the Bank of England, had broken ranks with his Bank of England colleagues to op-pose a rise. We now know he did not.

have fallen back on a time honoured line of defence. This is to plead that it is not they, the analysts, who are getting it wrong, but the MPC and its members, who have been mak-

ing some poor decisions. Actually, this is just sour grapes. Nobody can ever know for certain GPG style what the MPC is going to do, but by paying attention to its brief (which is to meet the Government's inflation target) and the growing body of material on its methodology, it is possible to take a reasonably well informed view of what might happen.

the Independent has been reasonably good. For that June decision, we certainly said that the Bank should raise interest rates, even though we stopped short of predicting it would. We also accurately forecast the breakdown of the MPC's decision. with Dr DeAnne Julius alone voting for a cut. All this from a newspaper that costs just 45p a day.

At the risk of being hoisted on our own petard, here are some more predictions. At last week's meeting. the MPC was divided down the mid-

earnings figures, there's a strong possibility of the MPC going higher at next month's meeting.

صكذا من الاعل

Activism in the

SIR RON BRIERLEY, the veteran New Zealand investor, is becoming increasingly active in the UK market again through his investment vehicle Guinness Peat Group. Guinness Peat styles itself as a bit of a Our own record of prediction on shareholder activist. Certainly it has

been agitating vigorously of late. Sir Ron's £42m bid for Bluebird Toys, in which GPG had a 22 per cent stake, flushed out a higher offer from Mattel earlier this year. His demerger proposals at Staveley, the 100 year old engineering business, were vesterday more or less agreed by the board. Next week he goes into battle with Young & Co, the under-performing South London brewery, over its out-dated capital structure.

Sir Ron's exploits beg the question - are corporate activists a good thing? The last group we had regularly taking this sort of approach was UK Active Value, the fund run by Brian Myerson and Julian Treger. Their targets included the jewellery group Signet and the medical group Scholl, but the once dynamic duo have gone rather quiet recently.

Sir Ron's most recent targets certainly look in need of a shake up. Staveley's shares are close to their five year low after a dreadful year in which even its cash cow British Salt business took a hit. With Young & Co, we are looking at one of a dwindling band of companies that persists with a two tier voting structure. John Young, the company's chairman, dismisses GPG's plans as "utterly self serving" which is a bit rich given his own self serving refusal to enfranchise the nonvoting shares.

Corporate activists play a useful part in shaking up under-performing businesses where our typicalmanagement supporting institutional investors are too shy to speak up They are obviously in it for what they can get, but if they increase shareholder value for others in the process too, where's

IN BRIEF

NatWest asked for profit-share deacher, the US corporate

advisory arm of National Westminster Bank, is negotiating a generous profit sharing arrangement with its parent company. Gleacher wants NatWest Group to agree to the same type of arrangement with the US corporate advisory business that it has with Hawkpoint, its UK corporate advisory business. Hawkpoint Partners, run by Alton Irby and George Magan, retains 50 per cent of all its profits.

1,000 to strike

nearly 1,000 workers at Onited Utilities Norweb have voted for an indefinite workto-rule and a one-hour strike over the alleged preferential treatment of employees on personal contracts. Union members operating

under a collective agreement will receive a 3.5 per cent pay increase, but those on individual contracts will also enjoy up to 7.5 per cent in bonus and private medical insurance.

The stoppage will coincide with the United Utilities annual general meeting on 24

operating a policy of "industrial apartheid". A company spokeswoman said, however, that the additional benefits enjoyed by those on personal contracts had been offered to union members covered by collective bargaining, but they had been rejected.

Ads for casinos

British casino owners relcomed a government lecision yesterday to allow casinos to use limited advertising and relax membership rules. Stakis said: "The industry has been working hard to make the government understand that we are outmoded by legislation." George Howarth, Junior Home Office minister, said the government proposed to increase the number of slot machines in a casino from six to 10, and to raise the maximum jackpot prize to 5,000 from £250. Maximum prizes on most pub and club slot machines will rise to £15 from £10.

Bank rating row

where we have no presence."

Foreign projects rise, but jobs fall

News Analysis: Inward investment continues to surge under Labour. but a shift to hi-tech industries has cut the growth in employment

THE JOBS bonanza generated By MICHAEL HARRISON by Britain's position as the most attractive location in Europe for inward investors may be coming to an end.

Official figures released yesterday show that although the number of foreign investment projects reached a record last year, there was also a sharp drop in the number of new jobs

The Invest in Britain Bureau recorded 618 projects in 1997/98 - a 28 per cent increase on the previous year - creating or safeguarding more than 124,000 jobs. Of those, 46,000 were new

However, the number of jobs attributed to foreign inve setting up in the UK for the first time declined from 24,000 to a little over 16,000. Grants paid to inward investors in the shape of Regional Selective Assistance rose from £104m in 1996/97 to £142m last year

Department of Trade and Industry officials attributed the decline in job creation to the shift towards more high-technology investment in sectors such as electronics, communications and pharmaceuticals. "The trend we are seeing.

not just in the UK but the whole of North-west Europe, is that inward investments are being concentrated in areas where the products are high value but the level of employment is lower," said one official.

"Investors who are looking for cheap labour to fill low level jobs in low-technology ventures are moving increasingly to southern and eastern Europe." However, Britain does not

look in imminent danger of losing its top-ranking position in the European league table of inward investment. The UK accounts for 30 per cent of all foreign direct investment in Europe, including 40 per cent of all American and Japanese investment and half of all Ko-

According to the latest United Nations figures, the UK is

second only to the US as a magnet for inward investment, accounting for \$345bn (£212bn) of all foreign direct investment -11 per cent of the world total.

Foreign investors have created or safeguarded 573,000 jobs in the UK in the last six years and now account for one in six manufacturing jobs, onethird of all manufacturing capital expenditure and a quarter of all output. The UK is home to more inward investment than Germany and France put

If the bubble is about to burst, there are as yet few have shrugged of the drag factors of a strong pound and the Asian economic downturn. When it comes to choosing a location in Europe, the Government's commitment in principle to joining the single European currency seems to have been a more persuasive

change rate. Officials also point to the picture of stability Britain portravs to overseas investors. As one inward investment executive said: "They like the fact that the environment here is probusiness and our labour markets are deregulated and flexible. Nor do we have those terrible bureaucratic blockages that you have in Europe."

term pain of a high sterling ex-

It had been feared that decisions by South Korean companies LG and Hyundai to put electronics projects in South Wales and Scotland on hold was the start of an investment strike by companies caught up in the Asian financial meltdown.

But Andrew Fraser, chief executive of the Invest in Britain Bureau, says: "All our evidence shows that the level of activity and number of visits from Asia is holding up very strongly compared to previous years. I was in Japan recently, and I sense that at a time of tur-



Japan's car makers, such as Honda at Swindon (above), were first: now telecoms, electronics and drugs top the league

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moil in Asia, the strength. size and stability of Europe's markets is actually very appealing to those investors.

While Britain remains hugely popular with foreign investors, both the method and the type of investment is changing, Nissan, Toyota and Honda led the charge of Japanese car field sites in the 1980s. The likes of Samsung of Korea and Siemens of Germany have carried the baton on into the 1990s with major investments in electronics and semi-conductor

But the emphasis now is less on setting up at greenfield tions. Last year that figure healthier. Last year British

companies setting up on green-sites and more on straightforward takeovers. According to the official definition, a foreign investment can take the form of a new project, the expansion of an existing site, a joint venture or an acquisition. In 1996, only 69 of the 483 projects identified by the IBB were acquisiprojects notified. Britain is also reaching what

some observers believe is "saturation point" with virtually every big name in business now represented in the country. The result has been that much more inward investment now takes the shape of expansion at exinvestments in the UK last year were expansions, and 60 per cent of the 124,000 associated jobs were ones that were safeguarded rather than created.

Nevertheless, the stock of foreign direct investment continues to grow strongly. According to the Office of National Statistics, it rose by £16bn in 1996/97 and by £25bn in 1997/98. The total up to April of this year stands at £172bn.

Outward investment is even

expanded to 130 out of the 618 firms invested £32.4bn aboard, taking the total stock of UK overseas direct investment to

Richard Wintle

£238bn. The Labour government has understandably seized on the inward investment figures, portraving them as an international seal of approval for the policies it has pursued since isting sites. Nearly half of the 618 coming to power in May last year. Margaret Beckett, President of the Board of Trade. said: "When we took office, some said that inward investment to the UK would dry up as foreign companies feared a Labour government. How

wrong they were." The challenge will be to maintain the momentum in the face of a strong pound, the hiatus in investment from the Far East and growing competition from Britain's competitors else-

BT lifts shareholder | Insurers' float is held up by hopes of £4bn payout political distrust in Canada

TIONS yesterday regained shareholder authorisation to buy back up to 10 per cent of its shares, boosting hopes that it might return up to £4bn in cash to shareholders, Bloomberg reports.

BT's shares rose 140 to 817p. They rose as high as 839.5p after BT chairman Sir Iain Vallance confirmed that the company is considering a buyback or a special dividend.

BT said it would like to give shareholders the \$7bn in cash it expects to receive from WorldCom Inc. for its 20 per cent stake in MCI Communi-

cations Corp. BT lost its authorisation to to buy MCI were terminated last year. There is still a chance spend its money another way. an analyst said.

"They have applied for the right and they have cash, but does a share buy-back make sense? It is debatable at this level whether it makes sense." said Mark Lambert, at Merrill Lynch.

"I wouldn't rule it out, but I wouldn't bank on it."

BT's bid for MCI, the No. 2 long-distance telephone company, was trumped by World-Com, the No. 4 long-distance U.S. telephone company. WorldCom expects to win

BRITISH TELECOMMUNICA- buy back shares after its plans final regulatory approval to buy MCI, the No. 2 long-distance U.S. telephone company. the company could choose to this summer, conditional on the sale of MCI's entire Internet business.

It is expected to announce the sale for up to \$2bn to Cable & Wireless Plc in the next few BT said it is still talking to

companies about establishing a presence in the US, the home of 40 per cent of the world's multinational companies, to replace its foiled plan to buy MCL It declined to comment on speculation it is in talks about creating an alliance with AT&T Corp., the No.1 US long-distance phone company.

SUN LIFE of Canada and Cana- BY ANDREW VERITY

da Life are facing indefinite delays in their plans to float on the Toronto stock market because of mounting political opposition in Canada. The news will come as a blow

to more than 350,000 British policvholders who are hoping for windfalls, worth more than 22,000 each, stemming from the flotations, which were originally planned for early 1999.

In the teeth of mounting distrust of insurers, the Canadian government has launched full public hearings and a "shareholder task force" to investigate the flotations.

The public hearings will delay crucial rules on demutu-

alisation, together with legislative changes and guidelines which must be passed before the life insurers can begin work on flotation.

These have now been put on ice pending the outcome of the public hearings that are expected to take at least a year to complete. The flotations are now unlikely until 2000.

Industry observers in Canada are speculating that Sun Life of Canada, already dogged by a bill for pension misselling running into hundreds of millions of pounds, may be forced to call

off its flotation altogether. In Canada, four mutual life

insurers - Sun Life of Canada, Canada Life, ManuLife and Mutual Life - are planning to demutualise when the government gives them the go-ahead.

Sun Life of Canada has 600,000 policyholders in the UK, 250,000 of whom are expecting windfalls of more than £2,000 each. Canada Life has 750,000 policyholders in the UK. 100,000 of whom expect windfalls of £2,200 each.

Policyholders in Canada are lobbying the government to block the plans. Public distrust has been fuelled by a muchpublicised scandal in North America over the sale of socalled "vanishing premium policies" in the last 10 years.

Vanishing premium policies held out the prospect of premiums shrinking to nothing as investments grew and earned enough interest to pay for the life cover. But they were sold on optimistic projections of high investment returns and low premiums - a scenario which collapsed because of economic conditions.

The scandal has affected 400,000 policyholders in Canada and has recently resulted in big payouts by life insurers in settlement of policyholders' claims. In one recent settlement, policyholders were offered C\$65m.

Sun Life of Canada did not respond yesterday to inquiries.

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Thursday 16 July 1998

Pressac raises £57m for expansion

By Clifford German

PRESSAC, THE specialists in electrical engineering, will become a worldwide market leader in manufacturing and supplying relays and relay modules to the automotive industry, the chief executive Geoff White said yesterday.

Pressac has just raised 257.1m net of expenses through a rights issue to fund the acquisition of G Cartier Industrie. privately-owned Frenchbased company, for £60.3m in cash and £2.8m in shares.

The acquisition will initially increase Pressac's market capital by around 30 per cent

Cartier's president, M. Gilles Benhamou, who has built up the business over the past 12 ears through a combination of acquisitions and organic growth, now controls around 15 per cent of the company.

He is taking 1.253m Pressac ares in part payment for his take, and will stay on for at least a further 12 months, retaining operational responsibility for the company.

The remaining shares in Cartier are owned by a number of French-based venture capital companies which are taking cash for their holdings.

Cartier manufactures relays and electronic printed circuit board assemblies, and valves for diesel engines, mainly for the French car market. This fits in 1995 to \$84bn in 2005, acwell with Pressac's existing Italamec business.

Cartier, which employs 1,900 people at factories in France. Germany, Tunisia, Morocco and Argentina, supplies the major

French vehicle manufacturers including Peugeot Citroen and Renault, and nearly 90 per cent of annual sales are to the automotive industries.

The top ten business customers accounted for around 73 per cent of sales in 1997.

Group turnover increased by 18 per cent to Fir667m 1267m), maintaining the steadily rising trend over recent years, and operating profits doubled to Ffr64.5m (£6.5m) after a setback in 1996 attributed to reorganisation costs.

Just over 10 per cent of the purchase price will be held in an escrow account to meet any warranty claims, and will be released over a period of almost four years to February 2002. Pressac said yesterday.
Pressac shareholders will

be offered two new shares at 180p for every three existing shares. The acquisition and the rights issue are subject to an EGM to be held on 31 July.

Yesterday the existing shares fell 21p to 260p, but the enlarged market capital will rise from £140m to £216m. Group profits for the year to 31 July are forecast to rise by 37 per cent to not less than £13.8m. in spite of the impact of the strike at General Motors in the United States.

The worldwide market for electronic equipment in new cars is set to grow from \$37bn cording to the Economist Intelligence Unit. With manufacturing plants on four

continents, the enlarged Pressac group is well-positioned to take advantage of this.



Monsanto will extend its agricultural seed products through the £320m acquisition of a Unilever crop-breeding section. The sale will include Unilever's Plant Breeding International Cambridge

Grant Norman

Monsanto buys Unilever crop breeder

MONSANTO AGREED yester- foothold in the huge potential day to buy the crop-breeding unit of Anglo-Dutch Unilever. the world's second-largest consumer-products maker, for £320m cash, to extend its range of agricultural seed products.

Unilever said it expected to complete the sale of Plant Breeding International Cambridge today, and said the sale included PBIC's units in Scotland, France and its German affiliated firm, PBI Saatzucht. The unit, which Unilever bought for £66m from the UK government in 1987, has annual sales of £16m.

market for hybrid wheat in Britain and is the latest of a series of acquisitions that have transformed Monsanto from a chemicals producer into one of the world's leading agricultural biotechnology companies.

"We have a very small position in wheat and this is a big step for us to get into that area in Britain," Monsanto's copresident of agriculture Hugh Monsanto has sold hybrid

wheat to French farmers for the past four years under three brand names: Cabestan, Domi-PBIC gives Monsanto a

French farmers using the products have seen a 12 per cent improvement in yield. That also means the farmer needs less seed than normal wheat, Mr Grant said. But in biotechnology field in Europe. Britain, no hybrid wheat is in commercial use and Monsanto plans a UK launch of Cock-

pit in the autumn. On average, hybrid wheat costs twice as much as normal seed although the return is still double that from planting normal seed because of the higher vield and better quality. In France, prices range from 780 francs (£78.90) to 1.040 francs per hectare.

tem in Britain, the acquisition of PBI brings with it research and development skills that will take Monsanto into the

مبكذا من الاحل

"It's a very good price, but in line with expectations." said lain Wilson, an analyst at Rabo Securities in Amsterdam, who rates Unilever shares a "hold".

Shares of Unilever, the UKbased part of Unilever, fell 3p to 673p, while Dutch-based Unilever NV rose 1.7 guilders to 162.6 in Amsterdam.

Monsanto agreed in May to merge with American Home Products Corp Unilever, and further pressure on rivals.

goods and build its food, home and personal care products.

Last month Monsanto agreed to buy Cargill's international seed business for \$1.4bn, while the previous month it agreed to pay a combined \$4.1 billion for Dekalb Genetics Corp, a corn-seed producer, and cotton-seed producer Delta & Pine Land. Its acquisitions have turned Monsanto into a major pro-

crops that are resistant to herbicides and insects. The move is expected to put

in time, on to the fast-growing

Brazil," Stephen Brandon.

BG's executive director with

responsibility for internation-

al downstream operations,

BG was created last year

Ex-Dividend

from the division of British

Staveley agrees changes to fend off GPG

BY NIGEL COPE Associate City Editor

STAVELEY INDUSTRIES, the loss-making engineering and ninerals group, attempted to fend off an assault by its 13 per cent-shareholder Guinness Peat Group yesterday by coming up with plans to cut costs and return funds to share-

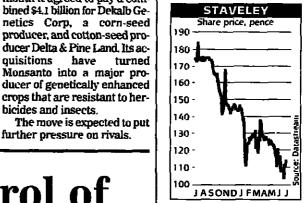
The board has taken up most of Guinness Peat's sugestions for changes, but the rey difference lies in plans for the core salt business, which provides Staveley with most of ts cash.

GPG had wanted the division o be spun off immediately. But Staveley management, led by the new chief executive. Chris Woodwark, wants to delay a spin-off for a year in order to give the management time to improve the other engineering services businesses which it says are not vet strong enough to be demerged into a separate

Although both sides have sent circulars to shareholders outlining their plans, it seems the board has done enough to defuse a potential battle. Blake Nixon, head of GPG in Britain. said: "We are fairly encouraged that in principal they have accepted all of our proposals. The only difference seems to be

one of timing."

Staveley is the latest company to be shaken up by GPG, which is chaired by the veter-



an corporate raider, Sir Ron Brierley. Other recent targets have included Bluebird Toys London brewery:

The plans of both the Stavegroup had consolidated debt of ley board and GPG are set to be discussed at the company's annual general meeting next month. In a circular posted to shareholders today, the Staveley board outlines plans to seek approval to buy back 10 per cent of its shares, to cancel and repay preference shareholders and return cash to sharepower generation and distribholders "as soon as is ution markets in southern

practicable". The circular added that management would spend the next 12 months improving the services businesses before looking at a demerger of the salt operations.

Urging shareholders to reject Guinness Peat's proposals, Harry Tuley, the Staveley chairman, said: "Chris Woodwark is conducting a thorough review of the group and has already set in place a number of significant cost-saving measures and management changes. We are confident that the strategy we have set out will deliver maximuin shareholder value."

Staveley shares edged 3p higher on the announcement to 115.5p. but they remain close to their five-year low.

Morgan Stanley to enter savings market

BY ANDREW VERITY

MORGAN STANLEY Dean Witter, the US investment banking giant, will today launch an assault on the UK retail investment market in a bid to step up its presence in Europe.

The bank which manages assets worth over £200bn, will for sell the first time UK-based retail investments to individual customers through insurance brokers and financial advisers.

Morgan Stanley is expected to offer the full range of investment products, including unit trusts, investment trusts and open-ended investment It will be particularly inter-

ested in taking a big chunk of the market in Individual Savings Accounts, the replacement for Tessas and PEPs which is due in April. The entry of Morgan Stanley

to the individual savings market will pose a serious threat to the market share of UK-based fund managers such as Gartmore, Schroders, M&G and

Peter Jeffreys, head of Standard & Poor's fund research, said the bank was rated 8th out of 255: "On the institutional side, their record is incredible. They are great bottom-up stockpickers - very carefully controlled."

The bank has already established a presence in the UK's institutional savings market and has successfully managed money for pension funds and insurance companies. Further details of its plans will be unveiled today.

The decision of the bank to offer retail investments in the UK underlines the growing keenness of American investment managers to establish a

presence in Europe. Unlike Merrill Lynch, which in November bought Mercury Asset Management for £3.1bn, Morgan Stanley is expanding organically. This follows the success of its rival investment manager, Fidelity, in selling unit trusts and PEPs.



with directors Paul (left) and Stuart Simpson

Pubs group swells its estate

OLD ENGLISH Pub Company. which raised £30.5m from a rights issue earlier this month (although more than half of the stock was left with the underwriters), yesterday paid £44.4m to finance the acquisition of 34 coaching inns and six pub/restaurants, mainly in the South and the Midlands.

OEPC is paying £42.4m in cash and £2m in shares. The properties have been individually selected - 23 of them from particular vendors, seven from Forte Heritage Hotels and 10 coaching inns from the

BY CLIFFORD GERMAN

Regal Hotel group, according to chief executive Barry Warwick. The purchase prices had been individually negotiated and ranged from 125 per cent to almost double the annual

The 40 properties have a combined turnover of £26.6m and an average turnover of £664,000 per unit. A further £1.1m will be spent on bringing the new outlets into the standard OEPC format. It will then take an estimated six months 307.5p.

to raise sales to meet OEPC's current annual sales growth. The acquisition will bring OEPC's portfolio to 160 properties, including 101 coaching inns and 59 pub restaurants. and increase the stock of letting bedrooms from 1,170 to 1,953.

In the first three months of the current year OEPC's sales were 78 per cent higher than at the same stage last year, and like-for-like growth was 5.1 per cent, in spite of the wet weather and the World Cup. The shares rose 6.5p to

Falling returns threaten Lloyd's financial strength

STANDARD & POOR'S, the credit rating agency, yesterday warned that the financial strength of Lloyd's of London will be weakened if returns at the insurance market carry on shrinking.

The agency said falling returns on capital at Lloyd's threatened its A-plus credit rating - a key factor in the market's ability to attract new customers.

In its annual report on Lloyd's, S&P said: "If returns on capital continue to decline significantly, this could put pressure on the rating level, as the attractiveness of Lloyd's to current and prospective members would be adversely affected."

BY ANDREW VERITY

S&P said Lloyd's would this year keep its single-A-plus rating, pointing to a strong capital base, strong regulation and financial flexibility.

But the agency hedged its rating. It said earnings had been weakened by the cost of the Lloyd's reconstruction programme, which rescued it from disastrous losses incurred between 1988 and 1992.

"Given that Lloyd's is well capitalised and is expected to be writing at modest levels of capacity, returns will be relatively modest compared to its peers," S&P said.

After peaking in 1995 at 18 per cent, returns at Lloyd's have since fallen consistently to 12.8 per cent in 1996 and 8 per cent last year.

Corporate members of Lloyd's have repeatedly warned that syndicates will struggle to make a profit at all on insurance underwritten in 1998.

However, S&P's report plays this down, claiming profitabil ity in 1998 will be "lower but still

The report will feed the suspicion of some names that corporate members are seeking to buy them out of the market "on the cheap" by talking down the value of their holdings.

BG to take control of Argentine gas supplier

exploration group BG Plc said yesterday that it is to take control of a UK-Argentine gas holding company Gas Argentino (GASA) and its indirectly held gas distribution operation Metrogas SA.

BG is to buy a 25 per cent stake in GASA from the Argentine energy and industrial holding company Perez Compane for \$75m (£46m). increasing its holding to 66 per cent.

BG's ultimate stake in Metrogas will depend on whether other GASA shareholders exercise certain rights, but it will have at least 54.67 per cent of the company through GASA, which owns 70 per cent. and through its own direct 5.5 per cent holding.

the largest buyer of gas and gas transport capacity and the largest holder of interruputible gas transport capacity in the Southern Cone. a region which groups Argentina, Chile, Uruguay and

With the investment, BG is expanding its involvement in the gas pipeline system that

with the Uruguay government and other partners for a 215km \$120m natural gas pipeline that Montevideo.

southern Brazil.

southern Brazil.

Metrogas is key to BG's strategy in South America as

\$454m at the end of that year. "We see Metrogas as a sound investment in its own right, as well as providing a base for BG's involvement in developing the gas pipeline system, which will deliver Argentine gas to Uruguay and,

will deliver Argentine gas to Uruguay, and eventually to the fast-growing power generation and distribution markets in In June, BG signed a construction and operation project

will link Buenos Aires with GASA/Metrogas made an operating profit of \$87m in

Gas. Centrica Plc now distributes gas in the United Kingdom, while BG operates at all levels in the gas industry internationally.

British Gas shares closed up 6p at 375p.

1997 on sales of \$628m. The

COMPANY RESULTS 4 610 (4 77p)

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253 tm (143 6m)

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M&S left behind by Footsie's charge

AS FOOTSIE surged to a record high the shares of Marks & Spencer, the retailing aristocrat, bumped along near their 12-month low.

They fell by 3p (after 11.5p) to 544p as the stock market fretted about today's trading statement. There are fears that chairman Sir Richard Greenbury will not have a particularly happy tale to relate.

Many shopkeepers have felt the pinch this year as consumer demand has wilted, and Marks is thought to have endured the chill wind of slackening sales with stories going round of customer returns running at a high rate. Already some analysts' forecasts have been pulled back. Last week CSFB trimmed this year's esti-

mate from £1.09bn to £1.06bn. Many still expect Sir Richard to report higher sales. BT Alex Brown is looking for 5 per cent growth. while Salomon Smith Barney is shooting for an 8 per cent gain.

Nervousness over Marks was. however, a side issue. Shares, particularly blue chips, again romped ahead, with Footsie closing up 51.3 points at a 6,151.5 peak. At one time it was up 79.6 points. Still, in two hec-





tic days the index has risen by 193.3

The charge was tempered a little by figures showing a sharp increase in average earnings which together with the Government's spending plans, reinforced nervousness about the economy. The spectre of higher interest rates could, it is felt, quickly return to haunt the market.

Supporting shares were a touch more lively. The mid cap index rose 39.6 to 5,697.7 and the small cap

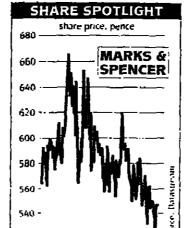
4.8 points to 2.581.6. MCI, the US telecoms group, in-

directly plugged into the Footsie action. The market is convinced that Cable & Wireless, up 32p to 842p, is about to clinch the acquisition of MCΓs Internet business, a deal needed for its merger with World-Com to receive full regulatory clear-

And BT, up 14p (after 38p) at 817p, said it may return the profits from its collapsed takeover of MC1 to shareholders through a share buyback or special dividend. The telecoms group is due to receive \$7bn (£4.3bn) from the sale of its 20 per cent stake in MCI.

Vodafone, up 28.5p to 868.5p, kept the telecom lines buzzing by revealing its intention to float its Australian operation. And, for the umpteenth time, Colt Telecom hit a new high, jumping 252.5p to

Elsewhere Compass, the contract caterer, was at one time up 65.5p and closed 35.5p harder at 670p. British Energy continued to reflect the Morgan Stanley support. up 30p at 587p, and among engineers Siebe edged ahead 38p to



dividend season, which starts later this month. The usual suspicion of corporate action is also in the air. Halifax ended 29p higher at 824p and Bank of Scotland 22.5p to 755p.

JASONDJEMAMIJ

Reuters, the information group with interim figures due next week, weakened again, off 17.5p to 644p. Goldman Sachs is the latest to Banks again anticipated their raised its downward target from a "bottom fishing" US investment GILTS INDEX: 104.86 -0.39

500p to a still lowly 550p. Morgan Stanley and ABN Amro are also hesitant, but Henderson Crosthwaite remains positive.

Safeway convenience stores' link with British Petroleum left the supermarket shares off 5p at 384.5p; BP added 8.5p to 859.5p.

Seton Scholl, meeting analysts, firmed 40p to 782.5p and Smith & Nephew, for long out of favour. added 4.5p 155p: last year the

shares were 191.75p.

Photo-Me International clicked 38.5p higher to 372.5p after its driving licence boost, but Car Group, the second-hand car dealer, remained in reverse, off 17.5p to 37p; the shares were 221.5p last year. The company has promised a de-tailed statement next week - the delay is worrying the market.

Lorien, the recruitment group, crashed 111p to 601.5p despite reassuring noises. There is still disappointment with Tuesday's interim figures, which although roughly in line with expectations.

left the shares down 66p. Next, the ruffled retailer climbed make cautious noises, although it 11p to 504p as Tiger Management, SEAQ TRADES: 76,687

buying a further 10.5 million shares, The fund, where Baroness Thatcher is a consultant, has been a persistent buyer of Next shares in

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recent weeks. Its usual objective is to double its money in a few years. Next shares were at 835p earlier this year, they fell to 476p after a profits warning. A 6,400-share purchase at 493p by finance director David

Keens also helped sentiment. Dragon Oil held at 34.5p. The shares have been in steady retreat since topping 100p in September: the damage. Former chairman Arifin Panigoro has 46 per cent of the capital and would like to sell.

Dana Petroleum fell 0.5p to 14.5p, a low. There have been hopes of a deal in Ghana, but with the shares down from 25p investors are clearly losing patience.

Cresco International, reflecting profits warning, fell 22.5p to 126.6p. The Israeli group has interests in a range of companies.

SEAQ VOLUME: 863.5 million

group, lifted its stake to 10.6 per cent. CHANGES AT Galaxy Media: chairman Christopher Moran has quit and his 28.8 per cent stake placed by stockbroker Townsley at 76p a share against 103.5p, down 5.5p, in the mar-

> The broker is also raising \$180,000 by placing shares at 98.5p. Galaxy, which takes in Mike Mansfield Television, a production company, is taking an option to buy Sports News; the cost of the acquisition could be as much as £2.8m. SN, a producer of sports-relat-

ed programmes, was founded

by Graham Gutteridge, who be-

omes Galaxy's chief executive.

CAMBRIDGE Mineral Resources held at 9.5p. It has raised £330,000, placing shares at 8.5p. As part of the placing Hanover Continental, a London-based venture capital group, has lifted its stake to 3.2 per cent. CMR's activities include hunting for diamonds and sapphires in Co Donegal in

the Irish Republic.

First Technology is back in the fast lane

OVER THE past seven years the performance of First Technology, the car safety equipment specialist, has been remarkably similar to one of its crash test

After a near-fatal accident in 1991 the company has managed to piece itself together and get back in the fast lane. The rehabilitation continued yesterday when First Technology reported a 47 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £13.6m, its seventh successive increase. This pushed the stock 7.5p higher to

Most of this success is due to a string of best-selling products which came on to the market just when safety started to become a key issue for car manufacturers. Take First Technology's best-known piece of wizardry, a device that switches off the fuel supply to the engine when the car is involved in an accident. This is now fitted on one in three cars made in the world and is expected to grow rapidly over

the next few years. Sales of this and other similar products rose nearly 27 per cent during the year, and steady growth is forecast for the enear future as new products come on stream and more manufacturers make safety devices standard features.

The success of its equipment-making division has helped offset a dire year in First Technology's crash test dummies division. Sales there fell by 17 per cent, hit by a slump in Asian demand and by the delay of US legislation to allow testing with smaller dummies. However, the law, which would give the go-ahead to crash tests using dummies the size of a small child or a woman, is ex-Epected to be approved later this year, opening up a major new market in which First Technology will have a near-

monopoly. Overall, the long-term prospects look rather promising. On analysts' forecasts of £14m for 1999, the shares trade on a forward multiple of 20. Not cheap but given the outlook still

INVESTMENT

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			: 397.5p (• • •	
Trading record	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
Turnover (£m)	34.0	32.9	38.8	50.5	51.9
Pre-tax profits (£m)	4.1	6.3	7.3	9.2	13.6
Earnings per share (p)	5.7	8.8	10.0	12.7	167
Dividends per share (p)	1.2	2.3	2.7	3.6	5.0
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Renault, 8%					
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Bullough has £30m to spend

BULLOUGH, the industrial engineering group, can spend up to £30m on acquisitions to continue the reconstruction programme begun three years ago, according to Sir Michael Pickard, the group's chairman.

It has already radically altered the balance of the business, with smaller and less profitable businesses gradually being sold in favour of bigger businesses with better margins.

The loss-making General Refrigeration division was sold last week, and the emphasis is increasingly on specialised engineering. Bullough is a serious player, supplying bespoke electric motors for anything from apple-picking machines to trolley jacks and wheelchairs, and more acquisitions in Europe would make good sense. Central heating will remain a core business, but the role of office

furniture which made up nearly half of sales a decade ago is set to shrink, and the remaining refrigeration businesses could well be next to be sold

In the half year to the end of April, results were dragged down by a £2.2m loss at General Refrigeration and pre-tax profits were actually down by 4 per cent to £8m. But operating profits in ongoing businesses were up by 14 per cent, rising to 17 per cent including last

ar's acquisitions. Order books are good and the strength of sterling is not a major factor. Only 13 per cent of all sales are exports.

Losses at General Refrigeration were double most expectations, but operating profits in ongoing businesses were being upgraded yesterday, leaving full-year forecasts unchanged at £22m. The shares were flat at 90.5p, barely seven times this year's forecast earnings. If the final dividend is maintained they will yield 6.4 per cent. Buy. pace with events.

Photo-Me in prime position

SHORT OF a government initiative to introduce personal identity cards, the Brussels edict that driving licences should include photographs of the holders could not be any better for Photo-Me Interna-

Already Britain's largest operator of photo booths with around two-thirds of the market, Photo-Me is in prime position to gobble up most of the additional business this new plan will generate.

According to the company's own estimates the additional demand could be 40,000 new sets of photos per month from August, when new drivers have to have the cards, rising to over 500,000 a month by 1999. Photo-Me will not grab all the increase, but it could add 20 per cent to 25 per cent to current volumes.

It is possible that the boom could encourage a rival to cut prices in an attempt to grab more share, but as the market leader Photo-Me has many of the best sites and at £2.50 its prices are hardly expensive.

The impact has been felt in the shares, which have risen from little more than 100p at the end of last year to 372.5p, up another 38.5p, at the close yesterday.

A range of external factors. particularly exchange rates. have affected overseas earnings, but Photo-Me has soldiered on with a policy of investing 220m in research and development. One new development is the Photovision booth which shows users a video clip of their photos from which they

can choose a suitable still. Rating Photo-Me's shares is difficult, with no formal forecasts available ahead of the company's full-year results next month. Greig Middleton's 1998 forecast of £15m puts the shares on a forward p.e of 30. At these levels it looks like the shares are already well up to

Source: Bloomber

stake in Glades CAPITAL SHOPPING Centres

yesterday lifted its stake in The Glades shopping centre. Bromley, to over 63 per cent. The company said it had entered into a contract to buy 50 per cent of General Accident Life Assurance Ltd's interest in The Glades for £54m, funded from existing facilities.

IN BRIEF

Capital raises

CSC's interest will raise to 63.525 per cent from 42.05 per cent, with General Accident holding 21.475 per cent and the London Borough of Bromley 15 per cent. Completion will be on 27 July.

Property profit

STOCKBOURNE, the property management and investment group, has reported a profit for the first time in 10 years in the year to the end of March, following the injection of new business and management in May 1996.

A second-half profit of £165,000 more than offset a loss of £126,000 in the first half, leaving a profit of just £39.000 for the year, £497,000 in the previous year. Further progress is anticipated, although profits on disposals will arise mainly in the second half of the year. the chairman said yesterday.

NMT stock down SHARES in NMT fell 6p to

52.5p after it announced it had called off talks with the Canadian-based Solar Pharmaceutical. The AIMlisted group, which is developing a hypodermic needle that will minimise needlestick injuries, said it. had signed a non-binding letter of intent with Solar in March 1998 but has decided not to proceed with the potential joint venture.

Thorn sales fall

THORN, the rental stores chain which recently agreed a £980m bid with Nomura, told shareholders that sales had fallen 1.6 per cent in the first quarter of its fiscal year. in line with expectations, as the UK's second-largest appliance-rental business began the year with fewer rental contracts.

Click too many costs £150,000

ONE CLICK of the mouse too many cost ED&F Man £150,000 last Friday when a trader at the commodities company fell foul of the International Petroleum Exchange's (IPE) electronic trading system.

Both the company and the IPE refused to name the trader, who clicked twice on his mouse instead of once to execute a natural gas futures deal in the process magnifying the value of the deal 100 times.

The unlucky chap concerned was Nick Williams, I can reveal. The glitch was quickly spotted and the company decided to honour the contract with counterparty Carr Fu-

A spokesman for ED & F Man said yesterday that the mistake had been caused by "a technical error of some sort we're not naming the trader."

The IPE has a turnover of up to \$2 billion a day through a mixture of open-outcry, at its base in London's St Katharine's Dock, and electronic trading. The IPE's benchmark Brent crude oil futures contract sets the price of 65 per cent of the world's internationally-traded

A spokeswoman for the IPE confirmed there had been a mix-up on pricing a deal last week, but "we're not allowed to

say who the companies are." She added that if the IPE can establish a "manifest error." then the exchange can cancel the contract, but that they were unable to do so in this instance.

NOT TO be outdone, our French friends over at Matif witnessed an even more spectacular mispricing cock-up yesterday. which could end up costing the traders concerned millions of The French launched their

own version of a gilts futures contract yesterday morning at 8.30 to rival Liffe's own British Government bond contract. However, several traders at

Matif had not realised that the maturity of the French contract was different to the Liffe equiv-

PEOPLE AND

BUSINESS By John WILLCOCK



BRIAN DAVIS, chief executive of the embattled Nationwide Building Society, has been receiving some unexpected fan mail.

Not, alas, for Mr Davis's role as defender of the mutual cause against the dark forces of carpetbaggery.

The fact is Mr Davis's two cats, Ferrety and Buster, appeared in an ad when Nationwide launched its pet insurance earlier this year. and have since received letters from admiring feline

fanciers Cannily, Mr Davies has been getting his kids to answer the mail.

contracts started trading at different prices, they tried to make a turn on the difference by going long in one market and short in the other.

This attempt at "arbitraging" the gilt contract went on for about half an hour until someone pointed out to the traders that the Matif contract maturity was 71,2-11 years, compared to Liffe's 10-15 years.

Horrified, the traders then appealed to the authorities to cancel the contracts, and other participants in Matif stopped trading at about 9.30 while the mess was sorted out.

Business resumed at noon. after Matif's ruling committee decided it could not cancel the contracts, as everyone concerned had been sent full detime. By 5.30pm, 1,270 of the new contracts had been traded. which Matif viewed as "en-

couraging."
Nevertheless, there will be some sleepless locals trading on Matif today. If the markets move the wrong way, their outstanding positions on the gilt contract could cost them a whole heap of francs. Or as one market insider said last night: They've probably got themselves completely stuffed". Quel dommage.

AND SO TO Number 11 for Gordon Brown's drinks party following his magnificent "Spend, Spend, Spend" speech.

The splendid first-floor reception room overlooking Horseguards is in magnificent condition, crammed with every species of Minister and hack. Gordon, his delightful companion Sarah Macaulay, husband-and-wife power duo Ed Balls and Yvette Cooper Geoffrey Robinson. Helen Liddell, Charlie Whelan - all tucking into the champers and canapes as if the word "crony" had

never been coined. Just outside the reception room is the door to the house's private apartments, currently occupied by Tony Blair and his family who moved over from No.10 to take advantage of the

Chancellor's gardens. Popping into the Chancellor's loo. I noticed that the bottle of Harpic loo-cleaner was firmly marked "No. 11" in big black letters. Is this to stop Tony

nicking Gordon's bog cleaner? WHAT A NOVEL career move for Desmond Hudson, who resigned vesterday as managing director of a life assurance company to take over as managing director of Scottish Media

Group's Publishing Division. Its not often that people make the leap from flogging insurance to flogging newspapers like The Herald, The Evening Times and the Voice.

Maria Stafford will replace him at Britannia Life, the Glasgow-based subsidiary of Britannia Building Society, where tails of the new products in good she is a non-executive director.

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started running to escape being told off by his mother. Today, the man with the face of a child has run all the way into athletics history.

What this 23-year-old Moroccan did in the Stadio Olimpico on Tueswas malfunctioning.

When his 1500 metres time was confirmed at 3min 26sec it marked both a world record and the end of an era. More precisely, the end of the Noureddine Morceli era.

The Algerian who dominated the middle distances in the early Nineties, whom no one had thought could be eclipsed this side of the millennium, was surpassed. The upright young Moroccan had taken 1.37sec off the mark Morceli established three years and two days earlier.

Since Jim Ryun of the United States jump-started modern 1500m running in 1967 in reducing Herb 2.5sec, no one has taken such a

AS A child. Hicham El Guerrouj A young Moroccan brought the Morceli era to an end when he destroyed the

1500m world record. By Mike Rowbottom

day night took a while to sink in - and 1.49sec in Nice in 1995, but he was holder to come out of Africa. "First not only because the trackside clock only bettering the time he himself it was Aouita's time. Then Morceli's.

> The chronology of the metric mile record in the last 20 years tells its own story. Britain, in the form of Seb Coe. Steve Ovett and Steve Cram, dominated until 1985, when Said Aouita, El Guerrouj's illustrious mentor and compatriot, began the present period of African domination.

Now the record is back in Moroccan hands, a fact that was marked soon after the race when El Guerrouj's press conference was interrupted by the ringing of his mobile phone. It was a congratulatory call from Nezha Bidouane, the Moroccan who won the women's 400m

Guerrouj joyfully acknowledged

Now it is Hicham's. We are all Muslims. We are all brothers."

He expressed fraternal feelings also towards the Kenyan pacemakers Noah Ngeny and Robert Kibet, whom he referred to as his "leopards", adding: "When I reached 800m in 1.50, and 1000 in 2.18, I knew I could get the record. This climate, the weather, the track and the support - I found the ideal condi-

El Guerrouj dedicated his victory to King Hassan II, whom he de-scribed as: "Our greatest supporter." Under the royal aegis, El Guerrouj receives a monthly grant of 1.5m lire to enable him to train to the fullest extent.

Since he gave up goalkeeping as his achievement as the latest record a 15 year old - he played for a youth

Bekrane - to concentrate on athletics, El Guerrouj has been marked out as an extraordinary talent.

There he was trained by Abdel Karder Kada, the former Moroccan El Guerrouj won the 5,000m bronze at the 1992 World Junior Champi-1500m time of 3min 33.61sec.

A fall at the bell robbed him of the chance to challenge Morceli for the 1996 Olympic 1500m title, something many observers felt he would otherwise have achieved. It was but joy deferred.

team near his home town of After excelling in school and local

competitions, the young son of a Bekrane restaurant owner, one of a family of eight children, was invited to join the national training programme at Aouita's specific re-

5,000m and 10,000m champion. At 18, onships and two years later he broke through to world class with a

Last season he won the world title in Athens - where Morceli was fifth and the official changing of the guard began. Now he has the metric mile record, Morceli's tradition- prove in Rome. The world and



al mile mark of 3:44,39 cannot be safe

El Guerrouj's stated aim of achieving a 3.24 for the distance, perhaps this season, appears outrageously ambitious, even in the light of what he achieved in Rome. But if anyone can do it, he can.

While El Guerrouj was confirming his pre-eminence, another es-

resisting a takeover bid. After his defeat in Oslo by Britain's young lions, Mark Richardson and Iwan Thomas, Michael

to win in 44.40.

For Johnson, who has run nearly a full second faster, the time was unremarkable. But he derived comfort from his victory in what was only his third race since returning from

If anyone doubted the motivation of the Texan in a season when there is no global championship, they would have been reassured by his uncharacteristically demonstrative reaction after crossing the line Johnson was left with something to

Olympic 400m champion rose to plauding crowd as if to say "That's the challenge, holding off his rivals right, I'm back."

He now promises that at the Goodwill Games starting in New York on Sunday "The real Michael

Johnson" will be evident. For Richardson, who had hoped to break the British record of 44.36, two big performances in six days proved just too much as Johnson showed his class to relegate him to second best in Rome.

The American has lost only two significant 400m races in 10 years so if there is an emerging El 0.22sec ahead of Richardson, Arms Guerrouj to come bursting through aloft he nodded repeatedly to the ap- in that event, he has his work cut out

Police question **Festina** officials

BY ROBIN NICHOLL

THREE MEMBERS of the Festina Tour de France team were yesterday being questioned by French police at Cholet. The team director Bruno Roussel, the team's doctor Eric Rijckaert, and an unidentified man went of their own accord to the police headquarters a week after a team masseur, Willy Voet, was arrested for ssession of banned substances.

Police also went to the team hotel earch the doctor's room and a truck carrying equipment and baggage. The Tour director, Jean-Marie Leblanc, said that there was no reason to expel the team from the race.

The three can be held for 96 hours without charge, and Miguel Moreno, Festina's No 3 team director, is on his way to join the Tour in case Roussel has to remain with the police. Roussel said through his lawyer that he wanted to give his side of the story as soon as possible after Voet, a 53-year-old Belgian, changed his story. The masseur initially claimed the 400 vials found in his team car at a Customs check on the Franco-Belgian border were for his own use. Now, according to police, he has said he was working "under

A Swiss sports doctor claimed in a French daily paper yesterday that drug taking is widespread in the sport. "I gave up with a team after one year because I realised that they were on drugs, and giving themselves injections," Dr Gerard Gremion said in an interview in Wednesday's France-Soir.

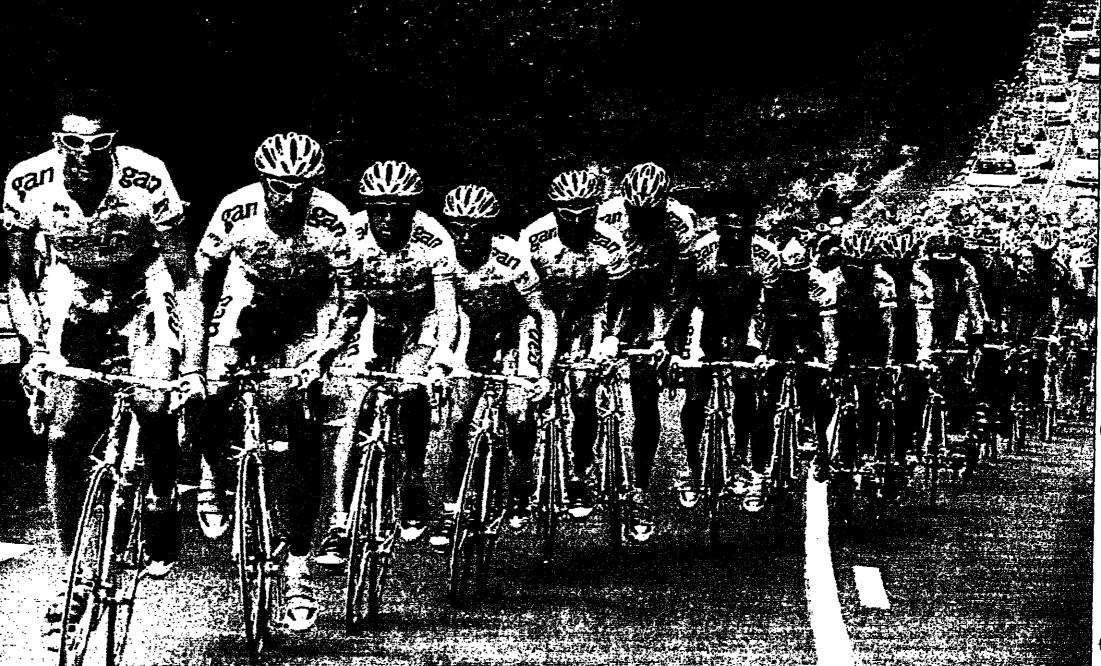
He cited famous names, claiming that taking dope brought about the early death of one Tour rider, and that another after a particularly successful season, was "like a walking corpse". He also claimed that a former world champion could not have surgery at one stage "because his blood was in no condition for such an operation".

Dr Gerard Porte, the head of the Tour medical team, said: "Doping is the worst thing for sport, but I cannot believe that it is on such a wide scale. We know that the crooks are always one step ahead." In an article in L'Equipe, the French sports paper a former team director, Cyrille Guimard. was adamant about the role of sports doctors.

The team director is now just a car driver," said the Frenchman who was colours. team manager to several leading riders, notably the five times Tour winner Bernard Hinault. "We are all to brated in 1981 when Phil Anderson blame," Guimard said. "It all start-

Erythropoetin (EPO) arrived in 1987, but 20 years before that Tom he was with the leaders but missed Simpson died after collapsing on the decisive move in the final kilo-Mont Ventoux. From the post- metre. mortem examination it was concluded that amphetamines were a contributory factor to his death.

In June the previous year the introduction of official doping controls in the Tour caused a strike by riders. Simpson's death highlighted the need for testing.



The white shirts of the GAN team set the pace on the Tour's fourth stage yesterday before one of their number, the Australian Stuart O'Grady, went on to claim the yellow jersey O'Grady graduates with honours

with the Tour de France

STUART O'GRADY proudly pulled on the yellow jersey of Tour de France leader here in Cholet yesterday, to become only the second Australian in 85 Tours to win the malloit jaune. The victory was sweeter still for O Grady, since his team-mate Chris Boardman had "They are the real team chiefs. crashed out of the race two days earlier while wearing the famous

Yesterday was a hallmark for Australian cycling, which first celemade Tour history, It was O'Grady's second quest for glory; but it was as tenuous as Tuesday's efforts when

Then after only 62 of yesterday's 252km from Plouay, he was the virtual leader. A former world track champion, the Australian snapped up two intermediate sprints, worth 12 seconds in deductions from his overall time. The first was enough to put him ahead.

His No 1 place was almost knocked off-line, however, by the ambitious French pair of Jacky Durand and Damien Nazon. Their breakaway for over 100km gained and Durand, 1min 16sec in arrears overnight, was suddenly the Tour

O'Grady's GAN team-mates smarting from the loss of Boardman - began a long pursuit that was

YESTERDAY: STAGE 4

taken up by other teams with their eyes on victory in Cholet, Twenty kilometres from the finish the threat was wiped out. Then the tension mounted again as a fall on the more than three and a half minutes run-in knocked Mario Cipollini out Dublin. Yesterday he rolled in near-

of the final gallop. On Sunday the Italian sprinter crashed in the last seven kilometres in Phoenix Park. ly two minutes after the Dutchman Jeroen Blijlevens' sprint edged

TODAY: STAGE 5 Cholet-Chateaurous 141.7 miles/228.5km

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out Nicola Minali and Jan Svorada. It has been a bleak Tour so far for the Tuscan, who has taken more than 115 races with his potent sprinting.

After Boardman fell, the sprinters began skirmishing for a chance to wear the yellow jersey. Erik Zabel took the same route as O'Grady with time gained in intermediate sprints. Bo Hamburger tried the same, but managed to win with time to spare to oust Zabel. Then O'Grady saw his

"After Tuesday's race I was pretty depressed. I realise that opportunities like that don't come around very often," he said. "I did not get much sleep after that stage. I knew it would take one big sprint and good teamwork. My dream has really come

"The other day, Chris (Boardman) asked me to take his yellow jersey

TOUR DE FRANCE RESULTS AND STANDINGS

TOUR DE FRANCE (From Plouay to Cholet, 252km) Fourth stage: 1 J Bil-jlevens (Neth) TVM 5hr 48min 32sec: 2 N Minali (It) Riso Scotti; 3 J Svorada (Cz Rep) Mapei: 4 F Moncassin (Fr) GAN; 5 A Tchmil (Bel) Lotto: 6 E Zabel (Ger) Telekom; 7 T Steels (Bel) Mapei. 8 L Michaelsen (Den) TVM; 9 M Sciandri (GB) FDJ; 10 F Baldato (Ir) Riso Scotti: 11 A Vierhouten (Neth) Rabobank: all same time, 12 G Matteo Fagnini (Ir) Saeco 4secs behind: 13 S Martinello (It) Polti +6secs: 14 B Rils (Den) Telekom 15 5 Heulot (Fr) FDJ: 16 P. McEwen (Aus) Rabobank: 17 B Voskamp (Neth) TVM all same time, 18 F Guesdon (Fr) FDJ +8: 19 A Casero (Sp) Vitalicio, 20 M Mauri (Sp) ONCE; both same time,

(Den) Casino +11sec, 3 G Hincapie (US)

US Postal same time; 4 J Heppner (Ger) Telekom +14: 5 X Jan (Fr) FDJ +32; 6 P Herve (Fr) Festina 33: 7 V Garcia-Acosta (Sp) Banesto +34: 8 P Chanteur (Fr) Casino +39; 9 F Cabello (Sp) Kelme +58: 10 Zabel +1:01: 11 Svorada +1.05; 12 Moncassin +1:08; 13 Steels +1:12, **14** Blijlevens+1:14; **15** Tchmil +1 19: 16 J Durand (Fr) Casino +1:21; 17 A Olano (Sp) Banesto; all same time; 18 L Jalabert (Fr) ONCE +1:22: 19 McEwen; 20 B Julich (US) Cofidis; both same time. Selected others: 24 A Olano (Sp) Banesto; +8: 26 J Ulirich (Ger) Telekom: 29 R Virenque (Fr) Festina. 88 M Pantani (It) Mercatone Uno: 100 A Zulle (Swit) Festina, all same time. Overall standings: 1 S O'Grady (Aus) GAN 19hr 43min 29sec; 2 B Hamburger

142 Pancani +2:05.

to the team car, and said to me: Perhaps one day, mate, you will win 🛍

The 24-year-old, who is based in Toulouse, takes over the yellow jersey from Hamburger, and is the first Australian to head the Tour since Anderson. "This has been my dream since I started cycling," O'Grady said, "It's very special to be the first since Anderson. I'm a happy man. Phil Anderson was the only one so far to hold the yellow jersey. Now there are two Australians. Phil was a hero of mine, an inspiration to take

He won one stage in each of the three Tours he has previously en-

sey will be felt Down Under, and in Merseyside where Boardman is recovering and already planning his comeback. O'Grady might have got a little inspiration as the race passed through a Breton village where the side of a house was covered in rac-

The Bretons love cycling and its heroes, but their thoughts on the vil-Overall standings: 22 Ulrich +1:22; lains that could be emerging over the 23 Zülle +1:24; 30 Virenque +1:29; Tour's developing drugs scandal

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¥ Near . . State . The Park Inc. State Lacon to \$5 9000 to-0. Carrier -

> enne de chi -2 Jan (1975) 177 tian the Berty

Assuran Champion:

The glow of O'Grady's yellow jer-

ing jerseys of all types. have yet to be heard.

Arnold

in trial

by seam

BY DEREK HODGSON

THE TOURISTS are undergoing

an examination of their technique against the moving ball. They fared better after following-on to Somerset's young lions, Russel Arnold reaching the tour's first century, but will no doubt be satisfied with a draw when they leave today to

play the champions in Cardiff.

cially the 18-year-old Matt Bul-

beck, with five wickets so far.

have enhanced their reputa-

tions. Bulbeck, left-arm fast-

medium, is another pupil in an

extraordinary school that is

emerging in English cricket.

one of left-arm quicks.

Somerset's seamers, espe-

Somerset 366-6 dec Sri Lanka 130 and 243-3

at Taunton

sparkles



BY DEREK PRINGLE at Derby

Australia 204-6 England 140 Australia win by 64 runs

IF ENGLAND'S women cricketers used to have misgivings about not being judged in the same light as their male counterparts they can fret no longer. Based on the evidence here yesterday the pair have at least one overriding similarity - both make a habit of losing to Aus-

This was the England women's second defeat at the hands of the World Champions in four days. Yet if the Scarborough weather confused the balance of power in the first game, the home side losing by a short head, yesterday's result was just and proper. Needing 205 to win England were simply outplayed in all departments, losing the 50-over match by 64 runs.

The most depressing aspect, from the home side's point of view, will be that they removed their opponents' best player in the second over. Belinda Clarke is one of the top three batters in the world and her dismissal, padding up to an inswinger from the one-day debutant Lucy Pearson, was met with the kind of gleeful squeals teeny-boppers usually reserve for pop idols. You could tell England thought it was a big

Focusing too closely on one member of the opposition can have its down side and perhaps their early success caused them to step off the pedal. Let's face it, going for the jugular is something the England men are only just starting to come to terms with. As so often happens, Australia managed to wriggle free, mainly due to a pair of measured half-centuries from Lisa Keightley and



England's Jan Brittin goes on the attack on her way to 19 against Australia at Derby yesterday

Craig Prentis/Allsport

The most plausible explanation for the margin of defeat. though, is that Australia are simply a better outfit and one that overcame the loss of their strongest player far better than England did. following the re-

moval of Charlotte Edwards,

run out for 12.

Called through for a quick single by Jan Brittin, Edwards was beaten by a slick throw to the wicketkeeper from the omnipresent Jones, the best outfielder on either side. If the fielding was a high point for

players were caught short of their ground.

There is no doubt that the overall level of skill on display was impressive. However, what most women cricketers appear to lack is weight of shot, something not easily remedied on a pitch that appeared to have all the consistency of thickskinned porridge. Consequently England could not accelerate when they most needed to - hence the kamikaze

run-outs. A diet of largely slower than both teams, the judgement of a medium bowling did not help run was less good and, in all, six matters either and it was sig- of 57 with Melissa Reynard be-

nificant that the Australian opening bowler Cathryn Fitzpatrick, allegedly the fastest bowler in women's cricket (at a pace somewhere between Dermot Reeve and Adam Hollioake), was also the easiest to

Not so the others and with the run-rate climbing to more than five runs per over. Brittin England's most experienced leg-spinner, Olivia Magno. That left the captain Karen Smithies to take up the cudgels which she did for a while, sharing a stand

fore the latter was yorked by Bronwyn Calver for 28.

With England now 115 for 5 and barely within loud-hailing distance. Smithles followed for 44. Her dismissal caused England to slip from view, the tail adding just 20 runs before falling to medium-pacer Charmaine Mason, who finished with 3 for 24.

According to the England campaigner-was yorked by the and Wales Cricket Board, women's cricket is a growth area, with more than 400,000 schoolgirls playing some form of the game. At present the County Championship involves

fortnight's time.

After that England will pick their Test team to play for the "Ashes." It is a series England, with their greater experience, have every confidence of winning. Before that they have three more matches in which to close, or at least narrow, the gulf that exists between them in one-day cricket. First, though, they must try to boost their confidence by winning at least two of their three remaining one-day matches which, on the evidence seen so

ing 215 balls and hitting 22 fours.

chor, the occasional wristy on-

side stroke apart. Not much

happened to suggest that

Northamptonshire would take

a game plan. When the sun

Aftab was happy to drop an-

14 teams and takes place in a

Sri Lanka's relief from the critical overnight score of 8 for 2 was only temporary on a grey morning of low cloud and a slightly faster pitch. The wind was lighter and warmer, giving extra swing.
The left-arm spinner, Niroshan Bandarathilake, hit

out in the best overnight watchman style, and 17 runs had been added in three overs when Bulbeck struck twice in three balls. He first seamed a good-length ball away from Marvan Atapattu and then beat him beautifully with a break-back into the pads. Two balls later Bandarathilake was confounded by outswing. When Mahela Jayawardene was bowled by Ben Trott's third ball, driving across the line, Sri Lanka's score stood at 30 for 5 and they were in grave danger of falling below their previous lowest score in England, 97, against Gloucestershire in 1991.

Hashan Tillakaratne, with the tail chipping in, prevented an humiliation as the ball aged and bowlers were relieved by all-rounders, but soon after three o'clock Sri Lanka were batting again. Sanath Jayasuriya, the opener few world bowlers could tame three years ago, pulled one cracking four before misjudging the swing and it was left to Arnold to

a wicket or that they even had restore prestige. A 24-year-old left-hander from the Nondescripts club of shone, it was the nearest to a dog-day afternoon there has Colombo, he played against England A last winter and has since played in two full Tests. All this was in stark contrast to the way Leicestershire had He survived an appeal for a low lost their first three wickets in catch at square leg when 31, but indifferent light the previous continued playing sparkling shots, his hundred coming off evening (another big minus for the experimental hours of play 113 balls with 18 fours. He may not be thought able enough to

play against England.

South Africa collapsed to 49 for 4 in their second innings against Durham, leaving the home side staring at the hitherto unlikely prospect of victory in today's final day of the tour match, Melyvn Betts took 2 for 19. while Gary Liebenburg was unbeaten on 25 for the tourists Durham had earlier reached 286 all out in reply to the tourists' first innings total of 362 for 3.

Batt makes the best of a bowler's lot

BY DAVID LLEWELLYN at Guildford

Surrey 150 Middlesex 115

SURREY'S ANNUAL trip out of London is beginning to turn into an unwelcome tradition, enough to put the "grim" into their pilgrimage south. No matter whom it is against, the fessparks a general decline in affairs. It happened in 1993, and

ground as Championship leaders - just as they did yesterday - and in 1994 they were soundly whipped by Warwickshire. They proceeded to lose a further four matches and any in-

terest in the title race. After rookie Chris Batt had what appeared to be an inadetival match would appear to be though this would be a night-something of a watershed in the mare revisited - their own season. When they lose here it Groundhog Day. But when Mike Gatting became the third England captain to make a

edge, there was a sudden shift in perspective and Surrey pressed a little harder. At the close, by which time

the umpires were obliged to notify Lord's because a lot more than 15 wickets had fallen in the day, Surrey had bowled out helped bundle them out for Middlesex, gained a first-innings lead and had a firm grip quate total, it began to look as on the match. The trauma of their own innings was long forgotten with Middlesex batsmen falling at regular intervals, beaten variously by swing, pace

was simply dramatic for Batt. tea for a return of 5 for 51, to He is 21 and playing only his third first-class game. On his debut against Oxford University he took three wickets and followed that with 6 for 101 against Nottinghamshire. Yesterday he twice took two wickets in three balls, the first time accounting for England Test captain Alec Stewart and his one-day counterpart Adam Hollioake, as Sur-

On the second occasion Batt bettered that feat, the dismissals of Ben Hollioake,

rey slumped to 7 for 3.

arrived at the Woodbridge Road Martin Bicknell off an inside Middlesex as for Surrey. But it coming in a 16-ball spell after leave Surrey's innings in tatters. Angus Fraser mopped up to

finish with 4 for 34, the first of those being Mark Butcher, just back after recovering from a cracked thumb and looking to hit the form that will win him a Test. recall. He lasted three balls, unlucky to get one that appeared to stop on him. The only creditable Surrey batsmen were Ward, who dug in for more than two and a half hours for 35, and Alistair Brown, who scored a responsible 51 before driving Phil

Slow pitch proves too patchy for Essex irregulars After that there were some

By MIKE CAREY moment he drove the first halfvolley of the day for four. Like most batsmen of his stocky stature he is a resounding cutter and he made the most of the width that he was offered, fac-

Northants are rocked

by Smith and Aftab

at Leicester

Northamptonshire 322 Leicestershire 376-6

IN AN ideal world Northamptonshire would have followed up their batting heroics with some tight, combative bowling here yesterday. Alas, they performed like the Championship laggards they are and centuries by Ben Smith and Aftab Habib enabled Leicestershire to make the most of a pitch on which there was no margin for effor.

Northamptonshire, despite that fact, bowled lamentably short They also howled lamentably wide. Sometimes they even bowled lamentably short and lamentably wide at the same time. It was no surprise that they did not take their first wicket until almost 5pm. By then Smith and Habib,

cruising along, had added 249 for the fourth wicket. They were closing in rapidly on the Leicestershire record stand of 290 by Peter Willey and Tim Boon in 1984 when Smith was caught off a top edge aiming an understandably weary-looking hook. Smith had put bat to ball

in this match). Franklyn Rose struggled to find length and line in yesterday's more equable

conditions, though he was not alone there. He must have guessed it was not his day when, aiming to kick the ball on to the stumps to run out Habib. he succeeded only in conceding four overthrows. Habib hardly needed such generosity. He looked rock solid and reached three figures from 113 balls with splendid timing from the with 14 fours.

ward for perseverance rather did enough to suggest that we than from any great devilry in . might have been about to see the pitch or from the bowlers and a stand to compare with Hus-

BY HENRY BLOFELD at Southend

Essex 292; Kent 8-0

CRICKET WAS hard work at Southchurch Park in a mildly chilly breeze under predominantly grey skies yesterday. Essex batted patchily on a slow pitch and, for most of the time, looked more like the bottom side in the County Championship than the Benson & Hedges Cup winners.

The wickets came as a reanything of bad batting. The way in which Essex scored runs at the end of their innings - the solved the pitch from any blame.

bat was really in charge was when Nasser Hussain and Stuthird-wicket stand of 74. Both

are fluent stroke-makers and twice came down the pitch to were the product more than sain and Paul Prichard's at Lord's last Saturday. When Law glanced Dean

Headley for four and then, with last three wickets added 89 - ab- a neat adjustment, ran him to third man for another and later The only time all day that the came on to the front foot to take, but an important wicket drive, it was impossible to believe that he has had such an art Law were together in a unproductive season. Hussain, too, was quick on his feet and

drive Carl Hooper's offbreaks. Then, Steve Marsh gave a turn to Matthew Fleming, whose brisk medium-paced seamers off. Barry Hyam. Essex's reare not so bland as they may appear. At 113, Law glanced at Fleming and was caught behind - hardly the product of a plot by the bowler, more a batting misnone the less. Soon afterwards. Hussain drove at a wide one from Fleming and Hooper held

a good catch at second slip.

good strokes from Ronnie Irani before he was out to a brilliant diving catch by Hooper at midserve wicketkeeper, steadied the last part of the innings with admirable composure and was helped at the end in an unlikelast-wicket stand of 47 by Peter Such, who always manages to bat as if he was walking on stilts. He played some good strokes, too, and provided excellent entertainment.

ras (63 (68 n658)...... 69 at (87.5 overs).......286

DURHAM - First lanksgs Oversight 10-0

First Indiags Coatd

262, 9-262. Bowning: A A Consid 16-5-31-0, 5 Elworthy 21-5-86-2. W J Cronje 1-1-0-0, B M McMillan 12-5-31-2, M Hayward 12-1-67-0, P L Symcox 25.5-6-60-5. SOUTH AFRICA - Second landings

Bowling: M M Betts 8-1-19-2, 5 J Harmson 7-1-14-1, N C Philips 1-0-1-1, J Wood 1-0-1-0. Umptres: J W Holder and V A Holder.

Somerset v Sri Lanka TAUNTON (Day 2 of 3) Sri Lanka, following-on, lead Somerset by three runs with seven wickets in hand. Somerset won ross SOMERSET - First lumines 366-6 dec. (Parsons 101no. Trescounich 95, Lathwell 56, Wickramasi

SRI LANKA — First Innings Overright 8-2 First Innings Contd U.C. Harhurusinghe c Harden b Jones ... 4 0 1

H Dhannasena c Sutton b Trescothick...10 0 1 39 G P Wickram c Trescothick p Parsons. 18 0 3 19 M Villavaravan c Sutton b Parsons... 8-2-16-2. M Trescothick 11-4-25-1. K Parsons 10.4-3-26-

To bat: 1R Kalumitharana. U Hathurusinghe, H Dharmasena, G Wickramasinghe, M Villavarayan, M Bandarabileke, Bums Bowillag, M Bulbeck 8-0-51-2, 5 Jones 8, 4-1-41-0, M Bums 3-0-19-0, B J Trott 6-1-23-0, A R M Pierson 10-3-41-0, M E Wescothick 9-2-35-0, K A Parsons 7-3-21-1, P D Bowler

Uzspires: B Dudleston and R Palmer Second Women's One Day International England v Australia DERBY: Australia woo by 64 runs. England won toss

K Rolton run out 9 0 2 17 18
M Jones St Cassar b Connor 58 0 4 75 76
B Caker not out 14 0 0 25 35
O Magno run out 17 0 1 24 21

ENGLAND -- First lankegs

. Ing: C Fitzpatrick 9-1-32-1, B Calver 10-1-21-0, C Mason 9 2-1-24-4. O Magno 10-3-20-1, A Fahey 5-0-23-

Umpires: J D Bond and J H Harris. Today's fixtures (11.00 unless stated) BRITANNIC ASSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP (Second

day of four): Southend: Essex v Kent. Guildford: Sur-rey v Middlesex. Edgbaston: Warwickshire v Hampshire. Scarborough: Yorkshire v Nottinghamshire. BRITANNIC ASSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP (Third day of four). Cheltennam: Gloucestershire v Sussex. of four). Cheffennam: Gloucescershire v Sussex. Lytham: Lancashire v Worcestershire. Leicester: Lekcester v Northamptonshire (12.00). VODAFONE CHALLENGE SERIES (Third day of three): Riverside; Durham v South Africa. Taunton: Somerset v Sri Lanka

Britannic Assurance **County Championship** Essex v Kent

SOUTHEND (Day 1 of 4) Kent (Apes) trail Essex (2pts) by 284 runs with all first-lamings wickets in basel. ESSEX — First Incines Runs 6s 4s 81s Min

C Irani c Hooper b Patel 5 D Peters c Ward b Hooper 228, 9-245, Bowling: D.W Headley 17-2-53-0, M.J McCague 18.1-8-75-3, M.A Eatham 15-4-42-2, M.M. Patel 20-5-42-2, M.V. Fleming 14-5-30-2, C.L. Hooper 10-2-40-1.

KENT — First Inches Runs 6s 4s Bls Man D P Fulton not out Thrai (for 0, 7 overs) To bat: TR Ward, C L Hooper, A P Melis, M A Ealham, M V Fleming, "15 A Marsh, M M Patel, D W Headley, M J

McCague.

Bowling: M C Rott 4-3-2-0, N F Williams 3-0-6-0.
Utopkres: G | Burgess and R A White. Surrey v Middlesex

OUTLINFORD (Day 1 of 4) Middleser (4pts) trail Sur-rey (3pts) by 54 runs with two first-innings widous in hand, Surrey won toss

SURPEY - First landage Rums 6s 4s B1s Min M A Butcher c Turnell b Fraser.... 35 0 3124 98 [] Ward c Brown b Batt..... A J Stewart b Batt 'A J Hollioake ibw & Batt .. A D Brown c Weekes b Tufnell . _.6 0 1 17 __0 0 0 2 ake low b Batt..... 1 D K Salisbury low D Fraser. 1 0 0 16 21 A J Tudor not out Saqlain Mushraq c Ramprakash b Fraser 0 0 0 3 Estras (b14 w4 nb2).....

Souring: A R C Fraser 16.1-6-34-4, C J Batt 15-3-51-5. R L Johnson 6-0-24-0, P C R Tufnell 18-10-24-1, K P Dutch 2-0-3-0.

MUDDLESEX -- First lunings

P N Weekes c B C Hollioake to Tudor 5 0 D C Nash b Bicknell..... raes (64 (63 w4 nb6)...

Total (for 8, 34.4 overs)96 Page 1-10, 2-35, 3-41, 4-41, 5-47, 6-73, 7-96, 8-96. To bBar: P C R Turnell, A R C Friser.
Bowling: M P Bicknell 12-2-25-3, A J Tudor 10-1-37-2, B
C Hollloake 7-2-12-1, A J Hollloake 3-1-8-0, Saqlain Mush-

tres: K E Pairner and J W Lloyds. Warwickshire v Hampshire

EDGBASTON (Day 1 of 4): Marwickshire (3pts), Hampshire (4pts) Warwickshire won toss arwickshire wor too.

ARWICKSHIRE -- First lanlags

Runs 6s 4s 8is Min

 4K,J Piper C Lidal b Stephenson
 484 0 8 72 97

 G Welch b Morris
 38 0 7 94 96

 N M K Smith c Whitaker b Morris
 51 0 8 82 110

 A F Gles not out
 23 0 4 34 42

 E S H Giddins not out
 2 0 0 4 8
 gs (b4 to12 w2 nb2).... Total (for 9, 87.2 overs)301 Fate 1-10, 2-18, 3-18, 4-63, 5-100, 6-169, 7-184, 8-254.

Bourling: N A M McLean 19-4-63-2. P J Harriey 20-5-63-2. A D Mascarethas 11-3-28-0, A C Morris 13.2-2-57-3, S D Udal 10-3-30-0, K D James 4-0-22-0, J P Stephenson

Jambres: R Julian and J F Steele Yorkshire v Nottinghamshire SCARBOROUGH (Day 1 of 4) Yorkshire (Apts) zrali Notsinghamshire (1 pt) by 194 runs with all first-landings wickets in hand. Yorkshire won ross

NOTTENGHAMSHIRE — First lasings

Sourling: D Gough 20.1-3-72-4, C E W Silverwood 17.7-28-1, P M Hutchson 16-1-58-1, G M Hamilton 20-3-59-4, A McGrath 3-2-4-0, R D Stemp 3-2-1-0 YORKSHIRE - First Innings

Total (for 0, 15.2 overs)40
To bat: "D Byas, D 5 Lehmann, M J Wood, 1R J Blakey, G M Hamilton, D Gough C E W Silverwood, R D Stemp P m rationson

Bowling: PJ Franks 5-1-15-0, K P Evans 7 2-1-16-0, A G

Whart 3-1-9-0. Umpires: J C Balderstone and N T Plews

Gloucestershire v Sussex CHELTENHAM (Day 2 of 4) Susses (Apts) load Gloucestershire (Spts) by 71 runs with four second-inlings wickers in hand. SUSSEX - First Innings 191 (Attain 59)

GLOUCESTERSHIRE — First landings Overzight 94-

TH C Hancock c Humphries b Kirdley 76 0 15 108 124 J Lewis c Humphries b Robinson 22 0 3 42 57 M G N Windows Ibw 0 Robinson 14 0 2 67 77 M J Church b Bevan 22 1 2 28 39 CRusseli C Taylor b Martin-Jenkins 25 0 2 64 79
C Ball b Lewry ... 33 0 5 56 65 M C J Ball b Lewry .. C A Walsh not ou

Bowling: J.D Lewry 19 5-3-73-3, R.J Kirtley 17-4-53-1. R S C Martin-Jenkins 19-9-56-2, M A Robinson 14-6-27-2, M G Bevan 8-0-27-2 SUSSEX — Second Innings

57 (8170 206 9 (1 8 9 M T E Perce not out.... W G Khan c Russell b Smith . Newell & Russell b Walsh 7 0 1 20 28 *C) Adams a Church & Smith M G Bevan c Alleyne b Ball .. . N R Taylor c Hewson b Lewis **10** 0 1 21 29 R S C Martin-Jenkins c Russell b Lewis 4 () 1 B Extras ((b5 w4 nb2) Total (for 6, 55 overs) . Fall: 1-10, 2-57, 3-70, 4-71, 5-96, 6-100 Bosting: C A Watsh 13-4-29-1, A M Smith 11-6-14-2, J Lewis 12-4-38-2, M W Alleyne 9-5-3-0, M Ball 10-3-29-1

timpires: D J Constant and T E Jesty Lancashire v Worcestershire LYTHAM (Day 2 of 4) Lancashire (Apts) trail Workes-tershire (Gpts) by 155 runs with five first-innings with Workestershire won toss

CRICKET SCOREBOARD First Innings Coatd S R Lampitt Ibw b Alcam

P k Illingworth : Hegg b Austin P J Newport b Akiam Extras (010 to12 w22 nb4) 310 9-320 Bowling: Wasm Akram 26-5-77-2, P.J Martin 20-6-58-2, JD Ausnn 31-9-82-3, G Chapple 15-2-95-0, A Flintoff 14-2-51-3, M Watkinson 3-1-15-0 LANCASHIRE - First Innings

tW K Hegg not out Extras (Io8 nb2) 1, 5 R Lampitt 11-1-41-1, 1 M Moody 15-9-12-0, D A Leatherdale 9-0-38-1, R K Wingmorth 10-4-26-1, V S Solan-

First lanings Coast

Umplees: H D Bird and A Clarkson.

Leicestershire v Northamptonshire LEICESTER (Day 2 of 4) Leicestershire (7pts) lead orthamptonshire (4pts) by 15 runs with six first-lings wickets in hand. Northamptonshire won toss NORTHAMPTONSHIRE - First Inclings 322 (Swann 92. Loye 76. Multally 5-62) LEICESTERSHIRE - First Innings Overnight 41-3

B F Smith c Ripley b Taylor A Hubib not out ... 123 0 18 247 358 Estras (b12 lb8 nb10) Total (for 4, 94 overs) . Pall: 1-1, 2-2, 3-29, 4-278 To bate P V Simmons, "C C Levis, D J Millins, A D Mullal-Bowling: D E Materim 21-2-101-2, F A Pose 15-1-62-1, N.M. Curran 10-3-22-0, J.P. Taylor 20 5-9-38-1, G.P. Swann 11-1-55-0, A.L. Penberthy 8 1-2-21-0, P.J. Bailey 8-2-18-

Umpires: 8 Leadbeater and A G T Whitehead **Vodafone Challenge Series**

Durham v South Africa

RIVERSIDE (Day 2 of 3) South Africa lead Durbs Purham won toss SOUTH AFRICA - First Innings 362-3 dec. |Cullinan

Hannon trio chase Sprint

Super Sprint at Newbury.

Hannon, resident trainer at feature on the cast-list. the Wiltshire establishment.

tion in the racing calendar, out his own career. designed to give the smaller owner and trainer a crack at he has tended to conquer the some serious money. The game through quantity rather

UNUSUALLY, THE embryonic race is restricted to horses domestic fowl at East Ever- which cost 30,000 guineas or leigh remain untallied three less when bought as yeardays before the Weatherbys lings at public auction, which means that names like In the seven runnings of Sheikh Mohammed, Hamdan the valuable five-furlong dash Al Maktoum, Michael Stoute for two-year-olds, Richard and Henry Cecil tend not to

has prepared three winners a devoted supporter of the and picked up minor place concept and his 23 runners to prize money with 11 other date have earned £227,694 for their owners. He hardly But, even with six entries falls into the "small" catethis time round, he is not gory, though, in his profesbanking on a large payday on sion; he has some 150 horses Saturday. "I don't think we in his care, was champion can win it", he said. "There trainer six years ago, has are a couple we've got no three 2,000 Guineas winners chance with. Tim Easterby's (Mon Fils. Tirol and Don't for one. And Jack Berry's. Forget Me) to his credit. And But if you're not in you can't he seems to be as good a trainer of men as horses; for-The £120,000 Newbury mer assistant Brian Meehan contest is a relative innova- is now successfully carving

But, by his own admission,

Prize money from a specialist race has been plundered by a trainer

whose runners must once again

be feared. Sue Montgomery reports

Unsurprisingly, Hannon is than quality. "There are plen-Stakes and subsequently the ty of us who don't have Arab owners and don't often get the chance of winning Group One prizes," he said. "In terms of numbers I may be nearly the same as John Dunlop or Henry Cecil, but I don't have the same type of horse. Mine are nearly all handicappers and the last type of two-yearold. And for us at the lower end of the scale these races are great, a real serious target to aim for."

Hannon's three winners were Miss Stamper (1996). Risky (1992) and the pocket rocket Lyric Fantasy. The last-named, previously win-ner of the Queen Mary mediocrity. Horses have no

The aforementioned Tim Easterby contender, Flanders, has already proved her- guineas) his best prospect. self that. The daughter of Common Grounds, a 21,000 Nunthorpe Stakes, was one of

guineas yearling, is unbeaten in three races over Saturday's distance. Last time out the stars of Hannon's annus she won the Windsor Castle mirobilis of 1992, when his 198 winners, a record number Stakes at Royal Ascot rather easily and Hannon has a for a championship, also inyardstick to the merit of that cluded two more high-class performance - his Sarson. sprinters, Mr Brooks and subsequently a winner, having Shalford, and the smart stayfinished second. Jack Berry's The names of Lyric Fan-Queensland Star has more to prove, having disappointed tasy and Risky on the Super at Epsom and Ascot after Sprint roster, plus other winners and placees like Paris winning his first two starts.

Newbury race.

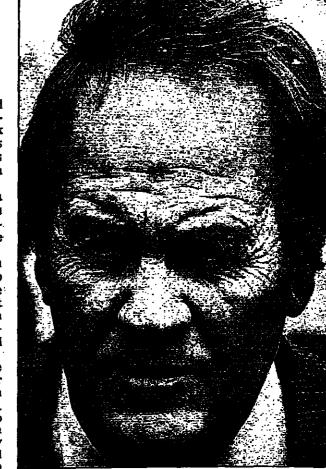
Hannon is likely to challenge with three of his halfdozen entries. The filly Vintage Pride, who cost 23,000 guineas as a yearling. has yet to score, her best run Richard Hughes Choto being a third place at Mate."

idea what they cost and an Sandown. Cheyenne Gold above-average performer is (10,000 Irish guineas) has already won twice, at Haydock usually needed to win the and Windsor, and shown he is very quick. But Hannon rates Choto Mate (13,500 Irish

> The Brief Truce colt won in good style at Goodwood in May before finishing unplaced behind Rosselli in the Norfolk Stakes at Ascot.

There was, however, an excuse at Ascot, as Choto Mate became upset by the antics of a filly in the adjacent stall. He himself must pass a stalls test at Bath today before he is given the go-ahead for Saturday. "He's a pretty good horse

and apart from his behaviour in the stalls he's not done a lot wrong," said Hannon. "Cheyenne Gold could go well, too. We just hope for a decent draw. Pat Eddery will ride Cheyenne Gold and



Richard Hannon: Aiming three at Saturday's event

DONCASTER

HYPERION

3.40 Naviasky

2.10 Enemy Action 2.40 Northern Svengali

4.10 Cadette 4.40 Mouche

3.10 Aginor GOING: Good to Firm (Firm in places). STALLS: Straight course - stands side, Round course - inside; Round mile - outside. DRAW ADVANTAGE: None.

DRAW ADVANTAGE: None.

Light-hand, pear-shaped course with mile straight.

Course is Ent from off the A638 (M18 Jots 3 & 4). Bus link from Doncaster Central station. ADMISSION: Cub 515: Grenostand 59: Family Enclosure 53 (under-16s free af enclosures). CAR PARK: Free

LEADING TRAINERS: B Hills 33-193 (171°s), J Gosden 27-135 (20%), J Dunlop 24-134 (179%), H Cecil 51-83 (239%), Mrs J Ramaden 50-200 (10%).

LEADING JOCKEYS: K Darley 34-258 (32%), K Falton 31-217 (14.3%), M Hills 30-166 (81%), L Detton 30-193 (55%), J Fortune 18-7% (10.3%), W Ryen 15-121 (12.4%).

FAVOURITES: 211-712 (29.6%), BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Risky Experience (1950red, 24.0).

2.10 CAPRICORN NOVICE STAKES (CLASS D) £4,600 added 2YO filles 6t Penalty Value £3,273

1 10 BLUE MELODY (USA) (9) (Shekh Mohammed) D Lode 9 1 ... L Deflort 3
2 1 ENEMY ACTION (USA) (34) (D) (Checken Stud) H Cecl 9 1 ... K Fallon 2
3 44 BOLD SHADOW (13) (Prine Recorp) R Fairey 6 9 ... J Fortune 1
— 3 declared —

BETTING: 5-6 Enemy Action, evans Blare Metody, 18-7 Bold Shadow 1997. No corresponding meeting

FORM GUIDE

Blue Melody: Dayjur three-parts safer to Blue Duster and Zieten, Won Si maxien at Lexester before eighth of 10 (weak 8-1 beaten 5 lengths) in the 6f Group 2 Cherry Hinton Stakes at Newmarket, both on fast ground. Useful but probably not a star Enemy Action: By Forty Niner and half-safer to good 397 2yo Daggers Drawn, 6-4 favourite, locked pretty talented herself when beating Maghaarb (an easy winner since) by 1% lengths in a 6f maden at Goodwood (good). Very promising Bold Shadow: Never So Bold daughter of a fairly useful 2yo sprinter. Fourth of five and faulth of the first beating Maghaarb (an easy winner and bounds of the first beating Maghaarb (an easy winner and both to the first beating Maghaarb (an easy winner and both to the first beating the first be fourth of six in 5f movice events at Catterick and Beverley. Has her work out our here

VERDICT: ENEMY ACTION will not be much of a price but cannot be opposed. It is possible that the other fity with an eye-catching cedigine. Blue Melody, was income-nienced by the lirin going at Newmarket last week, but at the moment one has to ac-cept that she gave something like her true form.

2.40 DONCASTER RACECOURSE SPONSORSHIP CLUB NURSERY HANDICAP (CLASS D) 25,000 added 2YO 5F Penalty Value £3,558

-6 declared
BETTING: 9-4 Northern Svangell, 7-2 Tous Les Jours, 9-2 Sweet As A Nut, 5-1 Disetto, 6-1 Gold-

JUMPS RACING at both Windsor and Lingfield is to end within eight months, it was confirmed by the British

The decision by the BHB's Race Planning Committee to accede to the racecourses' requests will do little to ease recently-voiced fears over the long-term future of the

final National Hunt card in March of next year. The cards will be moved to Folkestone. Windsor's last race over the sticks will be at the end of 1998.

Nap: Mucho Color (Bath 2.00) **NB: Prince Prospect** (Leicester 3.50)

The Berkshire track used to

Despite the move the Fixture List for 1999, due to be published on 30 July, will contain more National Hunt fixtures than that for this year.

Paul Greeves said yesterday that the effect of other fixture movements in 1999 would be that the overall number of jumping fixtures will increase from 525 to 527.

*THE INDEPENDENT Doncaster 3.40 RACING SERVICES 0891 261 + LIVE COMMENTARIES RESULTS DONCASTER 971 981 Trojan Wol LEICESTER 972 982 et et 164 et Et 973 E! E-1 20-1 20-1 20-1 ALL COURSES RESULTS Eachway gliffs the actor, places 7, 2, 3 <u>0891 261 970</u> C Cord H MSom Hit Lindows & States Title

FORM GUIDE Sweet As A Nut; has won twice in claiming grade and third to hot taxourise Counte-san in a Pontefract nursery (6t) last week. Best at this minimum trip but baddy handi-capped with Dietto on AW form in May Northern Svengall: Second to a fair sort in Perugino Bay at York last Saturday. A pacey

er Assessor.

House, Turtle Island and Op-

tions Open, should give rest

to the notion sometimes ex-

pressed that a large prize for

a race artificially restricted to

cheap horses is a reward for

Northern Svengall: Second to a lair sort in Perugno Bay at York isst, saurusy, a passey gelding who has a leading chance in this seemingly weaker nursery. Golden Reef: Often slowly away and about four lengths behind Sweet As A Nut (same terms) last week. Dot very life with today's painter Frankle Datton at Lebester three starts ago, but could do better today over the maintains on paster ground. Diletto: On faster ground after laisst two starts in the soft at Chester, the former run with today's painter Keren Failon when second to Saling Shoes, with Risky Experi-

Tous Les Jours: Promising debut third to Conwy Lodge at Ripon followed by two disappointing efforts, the first of those at York. A Dayjur filly who could come to life on this taster ground.

Risky Experience: Tried in a visor today and closely material. mgs at Chester. This taster ground may not suit the daughter of Risk Me

VERDICT: This nursery has a soft look about it with Northern Svengall having an obvious chance even though he was easily held by Perugino Bay at York. The Alston-Fallon team must be respected so DILETTO is in with a winning chance with a draw reach mast must be respected to outsile to say will a wind and grant of the man of the the same stands sole relt. The broky one to assess is four use Jours who look a lement mark on the evidence of her debut run against Conwy Lodge at Ripon.

3.10 GREENWICH NATWEST MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) 25,000 added 1m 4f Penalty Value £3,688

1	3	WORLDH (15) (WE LESS ESSES) U COST + B. In "
2	6/4	ELUSIVE STAR (5) (W Gross) Mrs M Reveloy 895 A College 5
3	0606	ABULLIOOD (15) (Hamden Al Maktoum) 3 Henbury 3 8 t2 Dettorf 3 B
4	5	DOUBLET (31) (The Queen) ! Baiding 3 & 12
5	24-34	FLAMESCHY WAYS (61) (RF) (Makinum Al Makinum) B Hits 3 6 12
6	0	ASSAFTYAH (27) (Prince A A Feisel) H Cecl 3 8 7
7		JAHANARA (M A Mr Paul V Jackson) B Hanbury 3 8 7 D O'Donohoe 2
		-7 declared -
		7-4 Reinbow Ways, 3-1 Aginor, 4-1 Doublet, 9-2 Assetiyah, 12-1 Elusive Star, 14-1 Ab-

FORM GUIDE

Aginor: Sio Anchor gelding from a good family. 16-1 on his debut, beaten 21/4 lengths when third of 7 (with Abulijood 11 lengths further back) to Kadeka in a 1m31/4 malden at 1mmouth, meking most. Should make marked progress here. Elusive Star: Fair hundler. Only second race on Fat when 111/4 lengths fourth of 8 to Brigade Charge in 1m4f melden at Pontefrect. May tare better in trandicaps after this Engade Charge in trind maidsen at Ponteriract. May tare better in trandicaps after this Abulligood: No better than sixth in four maders so far, best effort in first-time blinkers at Chester second start. Chances on that, but besically disappointing Doublest Bustino getding from a good family. 20-1 when 9% lengths fifth of 21 to Coultrard in 1n21 madern at Windsoc confing from rear and shaping well. This trip will suit him Ratinbow Ways: in frame in three maiders and the 7-humer 1m44 handcap won by Jaazim at Newbury (good to firm). Can take a good hold, which does not help at this trip. Solid form credentials, eithough has not progressed as anticipated Assetlyath: Kns filty out of a useful and well-bred winner. 25-1, slowly away and never got into things when ninth of 15 in a 1m21 madern at Newmantat. Bound to do better Jahanera: Sellohi, filly, half-sister to winners including the good middle-distance performer Beldale Star. Wade 13,000 gulness as a yearing

VERDICT: Significant improvement from either AGINOR or Doublet may well take care of the consistent Ralinbow Ways. Henry Cao's keeps more older horses in traning than he used to but it is surely still significant that he is persevening with Aginor, who made his debut at such a late stage but showed plenty of ability. Doublet accomplished less on his first race, but is another who will surely do much better

3.40 49'S HANDICAP (CLASS C) £10,000 added 3YO market 1m 2f 60yds Penalty Value £7,295

- 5 declared - 5 declared - 5 declared - 5 declared - 5 declared - 5 declared - 11-2 Nesthit, 15-2 Trojan Welf, 9-1 Chryso-tite, 10-1 Graimano, 20-1 Tankersky

FORM GUIDE

FORM GUIDE

Tamborsley: Raced on untavoured side when unplaced in Britannia Hendicap at Royal Ascot, form of which is working out so well. Had simple task at Catterick previously Zalouslat: Zafonic filty who won a maiden over this course and distance after a slow start from the worst draw at Haydock. Can improve further and very interesting Simply Giffact: Very good York nursery thrut a Nable Demand Was brushed asade with ease by Michael Stoutes. Secret Saver at Newcastle (in 4f) last time Nestichi: Cutsider of four when beating French Connection at Newcastle, three days after a defeat at Carlisle. May find this tougher on the much feater ground. Gratmano: Has won only on the all-weather surfaces and seems highly tried again (latest actions and the second of the second VERDICT: A wide-open handicap with Henry Ceol's filly ZAKUSKA given the nod after her maiden win on the course. Trojan Wolf continues to look a future wroner, while Navigsky is from a yard that has an excellent record here with their handicappers.

4.10 GREAT LEGER RACING GAME GAMBLE MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £5,000 added 1 m Penalty Value £3,818

STARLES (CLASS D) ED, OUU addred 1 Im Perhatry Value E3,818

LORD LAMS (1449) (A Startat & Mr J Perhatry Mrs M Reveloy 6.97 R Outhers 2 StEER WARNING (69) (P. J Arculin R Amestrong 4.97 R Price 7
FORM GUIDE

FORM GUIDE

Lord Lamb: Whining bumper horse back from a lengthy absence. Cannot be considered against the younger mals over this type of trip.

Sheer Wanning: In the same boat as on his debut at Lingfield when beaten by the younger horses. Best waiched until he contests handcaps.

Abu Campt. Made no show on only purents start, so hard to fancy.

Cadettes: The son of Arazi had the others well beaten off when a debut-second to Ben-lanbury's Wealthy Size at Notingham and improvement will make him hard to beet Eurothis Glorgiano: A newcomer son of Sellvirk. Needs to be only average to play a part. Grangewite: First run since showing promise in the Wood Diction at Newmanket in April. Can improve but may just need a bit more time. Singer Sargent: Mick Kirane-didden in the Wood Diction. Capable of improvement and-was twice hampered on his latest attempt at Ripon.

The Accountant: Hea not shown too much promise and needs to improve London Be Good: Decent first showing at Ripon and may not have stayed the longer for all Onceaster (first).

VERDICT: Newcomer Eurothik Glorgiano looks the danger to CADETTE, who is re-lead to planty of winners and sure to come on for a debut ascond to Weelthy Star. Singer Sargent may prove best of the others. 4.40 BEACHCOMBER HANDICAP (CLASS D) £5,000 added 7f Penalty Value £3,980

FORM GUIDE

FORM GUIDE

Pertoles: Won an amateur riders contest at Follestone (7) good to firm) in June. Has nun well alnoe, third at Epsom and shoth of 13 (pating at the and of trn) at Kempton Saley Ana: Effective with variety of textics, making most off this mask in competitive race (nn. firm) won by Mourit Holly at Newmarket last time. Consistent this term Weetman's Weight: Below form on but this season (and has fallen 8b in the weights as a result but has had access. Trip and ground will suit. Royal Result: 71 and text ground suit him well, as on he win at Newmarket last October, let to recapture his best this term, but threatened to do so two starts ago. Pride Of Pendler, Usually comes tale, Now just 16 higher than test winning mart. Plas gone close for a couple of third places this term, but ideally suited by irm not 7! histories: Knocking on the door from 6! first time tays ago. Surprisingly now 16 lower. Pintsterre: Winner and second in two 7! classified states at Catterick this summer. Recent below par efforts were over 6! which is too short. Remains one to consider Rymer's Rescalt 7! specialist who had good 1997. Took while to return to best, but good second of 10 to Cybertechnology at Redoar text time. Amazing Pact: Ex-French 3yo. Third over 7! (good to firm) at Kempton on first of three runs in maidens here, but showed much less at Beverley last time. Handicap debut fills its mark for 1997, but mostly well below form sine. Second in a 7! claimer on Southwell all-weighter last time, but best efforts are over shorter. Silver Secret: Stays 7. Event, won low-grade maiden (good to firm) at Follestone last Threads: Inconsistent but caches the eye dropped 10th since final start in 1997. Effective at the try and on good to firm.

ive at the tro and on good to firm Souppy fictal: Successful last month in 61 claimer at Cattenck and 51 selier at Hamilton.

Souperfichal: Successful last month in 8f claimer at Cattenck and 5f seller at Hernitton. Also effective at 7f, but will have to run good deel better than on letest start. Also effective at 7f, but will have to run good deel better than on letest start. Also less experience then most here, and further improvement a possibility Oction Ribes: Unreliable in the past but in good form this summer, setting pace when wrining all Beverley and coming late to prevall at Thirsk 6 days later, both races over 7f. Had excuses last time and can figure prominently again. Oxbains: Still a maiden, trained most of 1997 by Herry Cendy, Second of 18 off 49 last September, so capable of figuring off 44 here. Had 5 months off before latest run Ready Portisine: Placed off slightly lower marks last time starts, besten 8 lengths by Anthony Mon Amour over 8f at Chepsiow on latest, First by at 7f may well help

VERDICT: This is as competitive, with Pericles, Safey Ana, Mouche and Ochos Rice just some of those in good form. Mouche deserves to pack up a race like this and looks bound to go close, but a return to their best by either WESTMAN'S WEIGH or Thwash

Two courses ditch jumpers

In ceasing jump racing, Windsor and Lingfield are fol-

lowing the example of Not-

tingham racecourse, which

became Flat-only in 1996. de-

spite a vociferous campaign

from leading National Hunt

trainer David Nicholson to keep

Pasternak is unlikely to at-

tempt another valuable handi-

cap win in the William Hill Mile

at Goodwood a fortnight today.

for which a total of 46 entries

stood their ground at yester-

day's forfeit stage. Sir Mark

Prescott's five-year-old was

denied success at York on Sat-

urday by the Henry Cecil-

trained Porto Foricos.

Pasternak, who has been raised

5lb by the handicapper for that

performance, will run from his

previous handicap mark in the

Golden Pages Handicap over

nine furlongs at Leopardstown

on Saturday. This would appear

on the third day of Glorious

after that." Prescott said yes-

"We'll see what happens

to make him an unlikely starter

Goodwood.

jumping at Colwick Park.

Horseracing Board yesterday.

Lingfield Park will hold its

RICHARD EDMONDSON

hold six jumps fixtures a year but from the start of next year these will be converted into more profitable Flat cards on various dates.

terday. Despite the doubts the sponsors are taking no chances quote the horse as their clear 5-1 favourite "with a run". The BHB's racing director

William Hill Mile (Goodwood 30 July) Latest betting (Hills): 5-1 Pasternak (with a run), 12-1 Plan-B. 14-1 Fizzed, Mubrik, 16-7 Labeq, Misbah, No Extras, Pantar, Petuse To Lose, 20-1 Almandab, Brave Reward, Equity Princess, For Your Eyes Only, La Moduste, 25-1 others.

Results, page 25

BATH

2.00 Crackle 2,30 Brighstone 3.00 Minetta (nb) 3.30 Easter Ogil 4.00 Montendre 4.30 Misconduct GOING: Good

GOING: GOOD.

STALLS: Straight course - far side; Round course - inside.

DRAW ADVANTAGE: Low best 5t & 5f 16t yds.

Left-hand, gallopung course. Four furioning run-in bends to the left end is uphill all the way.

Course is 2m NW of city near A43t. Bath station 2m. ADMISSION: Club £13; Tattersalls DS; Silver Ring £5; Course £2. CAR PARK: Centre of course £5 for ear plus driver and £2 for each passenger: remainder free.

PANA: Centre of course 15 for car pus giver and 52 for each passenger; remainder free.

LEADING TRAINERS: 1 Baiding 19-89 (213%), P Cole 15-73 (205%), M Channon 15-124 (21%), J Berry 12-53 (225%), ELEADING JOCKEYS: PR Eddery 23-105 (257%), T Quite 17-30 (31%), Martin Dayer 12-69 (174%), Paul Eddery 12-76 (158%). LONG DISTANCE RUNNER: D'Marti (\$30) has been sent

231 miles. BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Mucho Color (200), Bon Voyage (230). Take A Turn (300). 2.00 AVEBURY MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS F) £3,000 added 2YO

5f 161vds BREAD WINNER (50) I Balting 9 0 ... DICK'S AT HOME P لا ترجيدا 9 0 Pat Eddery 8 . Flynch 1 DICKS AT HOME P (Lupy) 9 0

KIDNAPPED It'S A king 9 0

EUS KIDCHO COLOR (17) B Meetan 9 0

CCS: OO BE BE (7) WA Buckley 9 0

POWER GLOW J M Bradey 9 0

SAINT GEORGE G Batting 9 0

A MARACIONA (23) S Melior 8 9

ASTON EYRE A Luckes 8 9

C CRACKLE (62) 3 PRS 6 3

L ALMAGANS PICTRIME 112 METATORS 9 9

L ALMAGANS PICTRIME 112 METATORS 9 9

L ALMAGANS PICTRIME 112 METATORS 9 9 TOTAL CALL IN THE STATE OF THE

~ 15 declared ~ BETTING: 13-8 Stead Winner, 3-1 Cracide, 10-1 Mucho Color, Oo Ee Bo, Rainbow Romeo, Langans Figurine, Whatta Madam, 25-1 others FORM VERDICT

FOHM VERDIC!

The fact that Pot Sidery has deserted Reliabow Romeo for BREAD WINNER is a tip in restil, fan Balding is one of the most subsectful frames have in recent years and the selection is expected to improve a good deal on his debut effort. However, Rainbow Romeo Shouldn't be discounted now he drops back in the, and Cracide has a clear change on term.

2.30 WHITE HORSE SELLING STAKES (CLASS F) £3,000 added 1m 3f 144yds CLASS F) 23,000 added 1m 3f 144yds

LITT BON VOYAGE (USA) (Us0) P Moth: 692. T Sprake 2 B

2 6502 BRESHSTONE (6) (C) (D) (RF) M PGS 592. A McGaner 12

4 8000 KDR RESH (6) (RF) T LISE 692. Put Editory 12

4 8000 KDR SCHAN (USA) (6) P Bresh 792. N Polkerd (5) 7 B

LORIS BUSTER (USA) (6) P Bresh 792. P Murphy (3) 4

2 COLOR MARCHEAN (COS) (D) LKG 592. T Chains 9

7 650 S MINNISAM (12) (D) G Ham 592. S Drowne 6

5 COCC SORSKY (28) B Gubby 692. H Hughes 5

C CAST SORSKY (28) B Gubby 692. R Hughes 5

C CAST CHART (15) LM Sacky 48 T. N Adams 3

5 URBAN LLY (USZ) P Hodges 93 T Martin Dwyer 13

10 LREAN LLY (USZ) P Hodges 93 T Martin Dwyer 11

8 ETTING: 2-1 Brighstone, 5-2 Double Rush, 5-1 Alarchmen, 10-1 King Caran, Sorisby, 14-1 Bon Voyage, 20-1 Lord Bustler, Minnisern, Urban

FORM VERDICT

A grim race by any standards making no appeal for betting. BRIGHSTONE has not been at his best this season, but ought

appreciate this lowly company, and gets the victe by process 3.00 JAMES & COWPER ACCOUNTANTS CLASSIFIED STAKES (CLASS D) 25,000 added 1m 5yds 65462 OUESTAN (23) (CD) 6 Smart 6 9 6 ... J Stack 2 90005 MUHTAFEL (8) (D) M Curm 4 9 4 ... T Quann 1

2 93003 MIDITAFEL (8) (D) M Curm 4 9 4 T Quirm 1
1 **520 SOVERBORS COURT (24) (D) L G Cottes 5 9 4 LM Roborts 3
4 42002 BAINCER DWERRY (FR) (S) \$15005 38 90 - Plant Eddary 5
5 30250 TAKE A TURN (64) Mos G Noteway 3 6 10 - Plant Eddary 6 B
6 50040 MINETTA (7) (D) M 281 3 8 9 - R Modes (0) 4
6 60040 MINETTA (7) (D) M 281 3 8 9 - R Modes (0) 4
6 BETTING 2-1 Mineto, 11-4 Sovereigns Court, 9-2 Take A Turn, 5-1 Banker Owerry, 10-1 Quessim, Muhanyi

FORM VERDICT A treacherous race, in danger of being falsely-run, which would probably not be to the advantage of recent Newmarket win-ner MINETTA, though there is surely more margin for pun-

ters in sticking with a quelty progressive sort like the selection, rather than sweating to make a case for such as Sovereigns Court, Multitatel or Banker Dwarry. 3.30 STONEHENGE HANDICAP (CLASS C) 28,000 added 3YO 5f 11yds

FORM VERDICT

A very competitive sprint but one in which D'MARTI is a confident choice, as she is on the upgrade and should have conditions to sur. Sky Red and Second Wind rain well on the lightning-last ground at Newmarket last weet but wit not be so at home on this rain-softened surface, which leaves Edit or Ogil as the main threat.

4.00 LONGLEAT CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS F) £3,000 added 5f 11yds

lage Notive, 12-1 Midsuramer Night, 14-1 Boat Attempt, Leave it To Rod-ney, Tommy Tempest, Calandralia, 20-1 others FORM VERDICT

MONTENDRE was boaten at a short price in this race last year and will be at similarly prohibitive odds this time round However, there is no Hard to Figure in the race this year and, despite 51 being short of his optimum, he should be able to deal with the moderaty bunch he laces lodgy. 4.30 WESTONBIRT HANDICAP (CLASS E) \$4,000 added fillies & mares 1m 2f

0-1322 HAPPY GO LUCKY (12) M J Weeden 4 10 0 . F Tyran (7) 9

201403 RASPBERRY SAUCE (8) (C) (D) C Over 4.96 . T Outro 3
50-06 DANCING FEATHER (9) (C) 2 Hz 4.96 Pat Eddory 2
50-025 PEPPERS (27) K Burles 5.92 N Calton (7) 11
07-105 SHORT ROMANCE (34) J Hz 3.8 to A Bit Carry (3) 8
0-0000 ROBANNA (22) J Acctur 3.8 4 M Robots 13 500215 MISCONDUCT (12) (D) G L Moore 4 9 3 0-0000 NRGHTY MAGIC (36) D Elevento 3 8 3 J Ouinn OCE WINKE (22) J Alestura 4 8 3 17 40040 RAPID RELIANCE (8) 9 htgam 2 7 to 17 450006 JULY WOO (20) P Hoyeard 4 7 to N Adams

– 15 declared – Meanum weight, 1st 10%. Two handesp weights, 14% lifer 1st 8th, 8aby Spice Tu 1th Blue Hopper 7st 6th Arresas Lucy Tat 3th BETTING: 5-1 May Queen Megan, 6-1 Happy Go Lucky, Nisscanduct, 7-1 Dancing Feather, 6-1 Raspberry Source, Peppers, 16-1 Short Romano.

FORM VERDICT

14 306061 BLUE HOPPER (6) IS Cum 47 10

5 044500 ARRASAS LADY (41) JR Fauton 8 : 10

An unappeoling handson open to a shock result, though not many to large on paper. Happy Go Lucky deverves to win a race ofter some consistent efforts but MISCONDUCT may be able to reverse recent Chaption placings with her and go close granted a stronger gallop. May Queen Mogen won in determined style at Lingfold last time but is not a

LEICESTER

2.20 The Gamboller 2.50 Cosmo Jack 3.20 Denbrae 3.50 Grecian Tale 4.20 Gray Pastel

4.50 BINTANG TIMOR (nap) GOING: Good to Firm (Good in places). STALLS: All races stands side.

DRAW ADVANTAGE: Low may be best up to im.

Ingrit-hand, undulating course, with a straight mile.

Course is zm SE of onty off A6 Lukcester station (London, St. Pancas - Sheffield line) zm. ADMISSION: Cub £13; Tattersets:

20 (OAPs £6) Princ car park £25 admits car and four occupants.

CIO (CAPS 50) Picnic car park 225 admits car and four occupants. Free rotocards. CAR PARK: Free.

■ LEADING TRAINERS: R Hannori 27-166 (16.3%), J Dunlop 25-125 (19.8%), L Cuman 10-42 (23.8%), R Holinshead 10-125 (6%) ELEADING JOCKEYS: G Carter 13-124 (97-%), R Hills 10-89 (11.2%), G Duffield 10-105 (94%), W R Swinburn 8-57 (14%).

■ FAYOURITES: 185-606 (30.5%)
BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Rayware Lad (2.50), Rudcroft (2.50), Arterxenses (visored, 3.20).

2.20 MOUNTSORREL MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS F) £3,000 added 1m 2f

FORM VERDICT
This revolved round The Gambeller, who has an outstanding chance on his liter run, but has deappointed since Bens Gift and Agent Le Blane are two alternatives, but preference is for DUEL ISLAND, who shaped with promise first time out at the whole time!

2.50 SUTTON SELLING STAKES (CLASS G) £2,500 added 2YO 5!

3301 COSMO JACK (10) (D) B Meeton 9.2

0 NINTAN BELL (D) N/S J Craze 8 11

00 RAYWARE LAD (43) 0 Stom 8 11

00 RAYWARE LAD (43) 0 Stom 8 11

00 RUDCROFT (80) N Sycott 8 11

01 RUDCROFT (80) N Sycott 8 11

02 RUDCROFT (80) N Sycott 8 11

03 RUDCROFT (80) N Sycott 8 11

04 RUDCROFT (80) N Sycott 8 11

05 RUDCROFT (80) N Sycott 8 11

06 RUDCROFT (80) N Sycott 8 11

07 RUDCROFT (80) N Sycott 8 11

08 RUDCROFT (80) N Sycott 8 11

09 RUDCROFT (80) N Sycott 8 11

09 RUDCROFT (80) N Sycott 8 11

00 RUDCROFT (80)

- 11 declared - 15 declared - 17 declared - 18 february - 19 declared -

FORM VERDICT This looks a very modest event in which Both winner Coarnel Jack is the one to beat. However, this above 51 is not certain to but him, and he will not be much in the way of value. Thereto such min, and he will not be much in the way of value. There-fore, it could be worth biring a chance on RAYWARE LAD, who rups in J soller for the first time having had no chance in much better company on his two starts to date. Kilbowite Hill, who ran a better race at Haydock last time, is another

3.20 SCRAPTOFT HANDICAP (CLASS D) 25,000 added 75

1 1:2000 ARTERICERSES (20) (D) M Heaton-Eles 5 to 0. A Clark 2 V 2 30000 BB EM (22) (D) R Hymon 4 9 to ... Dane 0 Neet 8 4 00400 MRES DOUBLE [14] (D) Mrs N Macculey 4 8 to P McCabe 7 V 5 504006 DOUBLE [14] (D) Mrs N Macculey 4 8 to P McCabe 7 V 5 504006 DOUBLE [14] (D) Mrs N Macculey 4 8 to P McCabe 7 V 5 504006 DOUBLE [14] (D) Mrs N Macculey 4 8 to P McCabe 7 V 5 504006 DOUBLE [14] (D) Mrs N Macculey 4 8 to P McCabe 7 V 6 Doubled 4 Doubled 5 to P Doubled 4 Doubled 4 Doubled 4 Doubled 5 to P Doubled 5 to P Doubled 5 to P Doubled 4 Doubled 4 Doubled 5 to P Doub

FORM VERDICT

Few numers in obvious good form and not a strong race. SILVER LINING, having his third outing after a ten-month absence, ran well enough over a trip beyond his ideal to suggest that he will make a bold bid off a favourable mark on a course that suits him well. Semara Song and Milke's Double are feared most.

Part o pres

**. ----

3154

3.50 TATTERSALLS AUCTION NURSERY HANDICAP (CLASS D) £5,000 added

2YO 6f 422 PRINCE PROSPECT (13) J Noseda 9 7 W R Swimburn 7 3214 CAPPELLA (31) R Hamon 8 12 Dane O'Neill 3 0406 EMPYREAN (23) J Eustace 8 6 J Tata 2 6300 BUNDY (13) M Channon 8 6. R Partisin 5 633 RETALIATOR (47) M Bel B3 M Fenton 1 6300 GRECIAN TALE (36) A Jarys 82 J F Egen 4 - 7 declared -

talistor, 7-1 Empyreen, 8-1 Bundy, Gracian Tale FORM VERDICT Empyrean and Retaliator look the types to enprove further, but it can pay to give another chance to GRECIAN TALE. Gelded since flopping on unsuitably soft ground less time, he has outstanding claims if he reproduces the form he showed

BETTING: 11-4 Cappails, 3-1 Prince Prospect, 11-2 Pisces Lad, 13-2 Re-

to rollow home Hard Lines and Cusin at Newbury in May. 4.20 APPLEBY CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS F) £3.000 added 1m 3f 183yds O-THE GOLDEN THUNDERBOLT (13) (D) N Tricker 599. 1222= BOLSHOI (POL) (J124) M Muggendge 5 9 5 ... Dane O'Nesi 1

- 8 sectores --BETTING: 2-1 Gray Pastel, 5-2 Plying Engle, 4-1 Golden Thunderbolf Mcnument, 16-1 Bolshot, 25-1 Husbird, Brown Sugar, 33-1 Esterelle

FORM VERDICT 6HB handicap ratings give FLYING EAGLE 6lb in hand of Monument and Blo to spare over Golden Thunde with Monument likely to ensure the selection has the race run to suit, he can maintain his 100 per cent record at claiming

4.50 BURTON HANDICAP (CLASS E) £3,750 added 6f

2 062506 NAPOLEON STAR (14) (D) 1455 J Craze 7 9 0...

4 (32)34 PETITE DANSELISE (17) (CD) (BF) D Chapman 4 9 2 E) CO-603 LAS VISTAS (19) H Colongrada 4-84. K W Marks 18 P. 52540 ROBO MAGRC (47) (D) L Moreague Hall 6 B 3 ... A Clark 15 2 000054 WHL TO YIN (9) (D) P Murthy 483 R Perham 12 13 00063 CAPTAIN GARAT (6) (D) D Chapman 781 T Williams 10

TIME TO TANGO (9) G M Moore 58 13 G Duttletd 11

14 3(5334 MARINO STREET (6) (C) P Evars 5.7 (2 ... C Cogni (7) 7 V 5 (60006 BALLARD LADY (14) (D) J Warninght 67 ft .C Rotter 4 V 15 000000 PATHAZE (2) N Bycott 57 (0 - 16 declared ... Lorente weight 7st 10th Twe hardicap weight Pathare 6st 13th SETTING: 4-1 Time To Tango, 7-1 Sepontik, 8-1 Bintang Timor, Petita Danseuse, Ica Age, 10-1 Czer Wars, Robo Magia, 12-1 others

FORM VERDICT A low-grade affair in which ICE AGE has a good chance to

dominate from his draw close to the stands rail. A line through For The Present gives Time To Tango the edge, and the latter though seemingly flattered, is 80 obvious threat.

حكنات الاعل



Twickenham's tough talk over England threat

RUGBY UNION

By Chris Hewett

TWICKENHAM'S OLD school tie brigade has long been derided as a toothless anachronism, but hell hath no fury like a pinstripe scorned. Not before time, the Rugby Football Union vesterday bared its molars in worldwide governing body, the international Board, and told syllable to stop threatening according to the best legal

board, incensed by the latest IB talk of expelling England from international competition because of the decision by the Allied Dunbar Premiership clubs to seek clarification of their status through the European Commission, pledged the direction of the game's to fight its corner, if necessary with the aid of a full-blown team of specialist lawyers. "If

vation as is deemed appropriand is deeply suspicious of the IB's threat to expel England The RFU's management ate," Ken Whitehead, the director of support services at Twickenham, said in a sharp letter to the board. "It may well be the RFU will wish to be accompanied by its legal

Senior RFU members are convinced that the board is indulging in black propaganda in an effort to facilitate victory for Cliff Brittle, the estranged its members in words of one this matter is to be debated at management board chairman. the executive committee of at this weekend's annual gen-England with sanctions that, the IB, it is assumed the RFU eral meeting. The union is supwill be represented and have porting a challenge by one of its regulations and, indeed. Eng-

timing of this latest exercise in IB brinksmanship.

"It is fundamental for the well-being of the game in England and, it is thought, Europe that the RFU has a workable and ongoing agreement with the clubs," Whitehead said in his letter.

"The RFU cannot remove ferred upon them by virtue of the United Kingdom's membership of the European Union, which prevail over RFU

because of the clubs' EC application was "not sustain-

Meanwhile, the political point-scoring continued south of the equator as the three rugby superpowers announced plans to give Argentina an annual Test series against Australia, New Zealand or South from the clubs the rights con- Africa from next year, when two zar unions now claim to be matches against the Springboks have been scheduled. "It is a key element of our strategy to assist the ongoing development of Puma rugby." Rob

advice, would be laughed out the right to make such obser- own number, Brian Baister, lish law." He added that the Fisher, the Sanzar chairman nament, about which they hemisphere that England, at from New Zealand, said.

عبكذا من الاعل

Stung by sharp criticism of their marginalisation of second division southern hemisphere powers - the dash for Rupert Murdoch money led by the Wallabies, the All Blacks and the Springboks in 1995 left Argentina, Zimbabwe, Namibia and the South Sea islands swinging in the wind - the Sanpursuing a policy of "globali-

Sadly, they have no plans to include Western Samoa or Fiji

remain fiercely protectionist.

In the aftermath of the unsuccessful summer tours by all four home unions, it suits the Sanzar countries to court new and South Africa but we simopponents, especially as Clive Woodward, the England coach. has no intention of fulfilling next summer's Cook Cup fixture in Australia.

One of Woodward's former international colleagues, Bill Beaumont, is making the right diplomatic noises, however. in the lucrative Super 12 tour- has assured the southern

least, will provide stiffer opposition in future. "We urgently need regular contact with Australia. New Zealand ply cannot afford to pit understrength sides against the powerful Test nations of the world." the former Lions

captain said vesterday. "We must work with the clubs to ensure our players are fit to compete on the best possible footing on future tours. I The chairman of the RFU's want to make sure that Engnational playing committee land's 1998 summer was a low

Clubs agree new Sky deal to avert split

BY DAVE HADFIELD

PEACE HAS broken out in the game - at least as far as the thorny issues of a new BSkvB contract and the criteria for entry to Super League are con-

Headingley yesterday unanimously agreed to accept a new five-year deal, worth a total of £56.8m, of which £45m will go to Super League clubs and the rest to the game at large and to lower division clubs, who will not be a part of any further con-

There was also unanimous agreement on the mechanism by which clubs, existing or newly created, can enter Super

A side that wins the First Diassessed by an independent O'Neill, who has fallen foul of nanel which is to be set up. The same will apply to any new application, such as the ones from Gateshead, Cardiff and Swansea which are currently

fair," said the chairman of the Rugby League, Sir Rodney Walker, who described the end of a quarrel that had threatened to split the game as "an outbreak of collective com-

mon sense". "The game has a history of drawing back from the abyss and this shows that rugby A special meeting of clubs at league is more important than any personal interests," he

> The managing director of Super League, Maurice Lindsay, welcomed the agreement in equally fulsome terms. "I'm absolutely delighted for everyone in the game," he said. "We can put all our frustrations, all those time-consuming meetings behind us and get on with playing the game."

The London Broncos have veeded out another player but have turned down the chance vision will now have its claims to re-sign Julian O'Neili. yet another employer at South Sydney, has approached London, for whom he played briefly in 1995.

> The Broncos came close to taking a risk with him once more but their coach. Tony

move because of the player's history of off-field problems. He has also chosen to release a fourth player - the scrum-half Damien Chap-

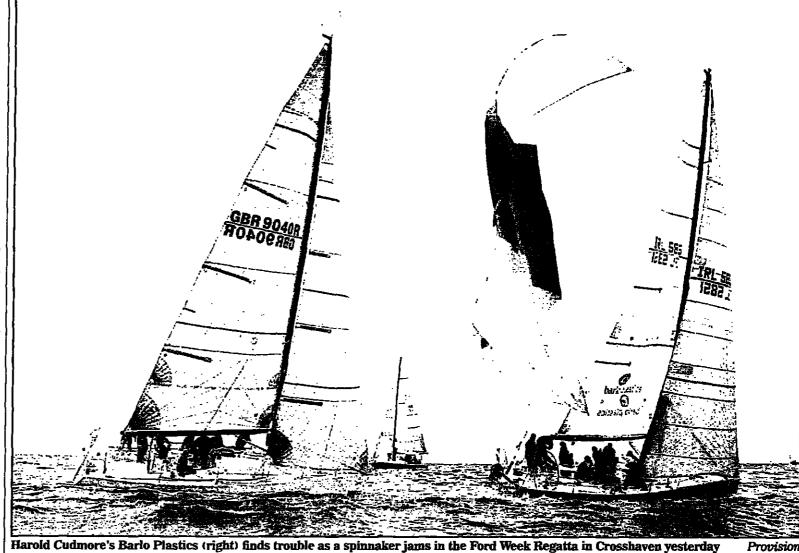
Chapman is returning to Australia along with Roger Best, Darren Higgins and Butch Fatnowna while the Scottish centre, lain Higgins, has gone on loan to Hunslet.

Newcomer Shane Millard will not have a work permit in time to play against Bradford in Edinburgh on Saturday, but Currie will still be able to field his strongest line-up for

Bradford, who have Bernard Dwyer available after winning his appeal against a one-match ban, could, after all, provide a future home for the banned Newcastle Knights forward Wayne Richards.

The Bulis' coach, Matthew Elliott, has spoken to Richards about the possibility of him coming to England when a 22match ban for steroid abuse is completed next year.

"He is a good player and a solid human being, but to call it a strong do that it should be seen to be Currie, decided against the premature," Elliott said.



Swell party atmosphere in Cork

BY STUART ALEXANDER in Cork

JUST AS Willie John McBride. a Protestant Ulsterman, could count on the throatiest of roars when he led Ireland's rugby team on to the hallowed turf of Lansdowne Road in Dublin, so the welcome for everyone - from just about everywhere - involved with Ford Cork Week beats anything that politics or the boost for the local economy weather can throw at them in Crosshaven.

has swelled in this biennial with 70 per cent of the entries coming from outside the Republic, including a contingent from the north, many from England, Wales and Scotland, and even a sprinkling from France, Belgium and the Netherlands.

Unofficially Ireland's national regatta. Ford Cork Week has provided a tremendous and the local club. While hed and breakfasts and bars turn

Club has been able to develop waste disposal management substantial margin. system.

A specially written software programme not only copes with berthing the boats every night, it has increased capacievent's chairman, Clayton Love, cope with over 100 boats

While the avowed aim is to promote sailing for all, a by- lay on two races for them each

of racing vachts in the British aster in the first one you can jamboree to over 670 this year, a hi-tech facility incorporating Isles and, if you took the daya substantial marina, much boat classes out of Cowes week, underground cabling, and a it would be the biggest by a

Part of the appeal is the party atmosphere ashore in a greatly expanded tented village. But Love also points to a willingness to move forward ty and could, according to the every time, rather than consolidate, and to providing a variety of races, with something different every day, for the competitors, "And because we

From a total of 128 entries 10 over huge amounts of cash, an product has been the creation day on six different courses," years ago, the number at Cork expanded Royal Cork Yacht of the second biggest gathering Love said, "if you have a disalways make up for it in the second '

> Ford Cork Week also attracts class championships to join in the £750,000 event, instead of organising their own. The Sigma 33s and 38s are here for a second time, the locally developed 1720 sport boat has its European championship, but in the 33s Ian Nicholson's St Joan is being made to work hard to win back the title they first won in Cork in 1996.

Inquiry

into riot

BY DAVID FIELD

at Reading

BOXING

BRITISH BOXING will hold an

inquiry into the disturbances

which flared during Geoff Mc-

Creesh's British welterweight

title victory in Reading on Tues-

day night. The maybem came

Results, Digest, page 27

Wilkinson leads the British challenge

TENNIS

10 mg 12 mg 20
7 Lancas

CHRIS WILKINSON led the British assault on the LTA Manchester Challenger title at Didsbury yesterday afternoon. Wilkinson, the British No 3

and a former chamoion, was one of three home winners in the first round after a 7-6, 6-1 success over the qualifier Arvind Parmar. The victory came as a relief to the 28-yearold, who lost to his doubles partner, Danny Sapsford, in the opening round at Bristol last

The first set was close largely because Wilkinson struggled to convert his break points, but he eventually won a one-sided tie-break, Wilkinson's second-set display was more convincing, especially after Parmar slipped and picked up an injury in the latter stages.

"Last week was a hiccup rather than a major setback," Wilkinson said. "Overall, I'm happy with my form and head- another Frenchman. Julien ing in the right direction in the Boutter rankings."

Mutis of France for a place in the quarter-finals. Mark Petchey, 28 next month, defeated South Africa's

Kyle Rudman, 6-3, 6-0, and now plays the 1997 runner-up, Stefano Pescosolido of Italy. Victory in this tournament might persuade Petchey to reconsider his retirement plans.

"It could have a bearing on what I decide to do because I'll be making a decision shortly." the Essex-based former Davis Cup player said. Luke Milligan completed the British hat-trick when he knocked out Anthony Dupuis.

Milligan resumed 3-2 up overnight and went on to complete a 6-3 6-4 victory over the Frenchman. Milligan is now in line to

meet the seventh seed, Rogier Wassen of the Netherlands or

Another British player, Wilkinson now faces Olivier Jamie Delgado, overcame an Australian qualifier, Toby Mitchell, 7-5, 6-1, to earn a crack at the defending champion, Spain's Oscar Burrieza. However, Nick Gould, a Bristol semi-finalist last weekend. went down 6-2, 6-4 to the sixth seed, Alex Radulescu of Germany.

■ Spain's Davis Cup captain, Manolo Santana, has dropped the world No 7, Alex Corretia. from the doubles team for this weekend's quarter-final tie against Switzerland. Corretia. who lost his doubles match with Javier Sanchez in the last round against Brazil, will be replaced by Julian Alonso, who has partnered Sanchez.

"We've got up to an hour before the start of the match to change the line-up again, but in principle this will be the new combination." Santana said.

Wenger may return to Japan

FOOTBALL

ARSENE WENGER, Arsenal's Double-winning manager, has refused to rule out a return to Japan to take the national team to the 2002 World Cup finals. "It's not impossible, nothing's impossible in football," said Wenger, who turned the J-League club Nagoya Grampus Eight into championship contenders during his spell in

Japan between 1995 and 1996. "I've got great memories of my time in Japan and I've always thought that one day I would go back there to work." he added. "If the Japanese

want me to coach their team at the next World Cup, then that's a big honour, a great honour, for me. At the moment there's no proposal to do so but, if one came, I would think about it very seriously at the time.

"I have one more year to go on my contract with Arsenal and I will at least give them this year." he told Tokyo's Daily Yomiuri,

Japan's football association has a number of candidates in mind to replace the head coach Takeshi Okada, who resigned after losing all three matches at France 98. Wenger has also been linked with the French

national post, about to be relinguished by Aime Jacquet. Organisers of England's

campaign to host the 2006 World Cup have insisted that they had strengthened their chances of winning the bidding race during France 98, despite the ugly scenes involving England fans in Marseilles. Germany and South Africa

are England's main opponents. although other African countries and Australia could also enter the race before the final decision is made in June 2000.

However, the campaign director. Alec McGivan, maintained that the intense lobbying

sports minister, Tony Banks, which took place in France over the past couple of months, had helped England's cause. "We feel we have strengthened our position during the

campaign featuring himself,

Sir Bobby Charlton and the

tournament and that we are out in front so that we are the candidates that the others have to beat," he said yesterday. England have dropped five places to 10th in the latest Fifa world rankings. Scotland. meanwhile, have moved up five spots to 36th in the list issued

turnover on racing in 1997/98.

The increase resulted in a record

either side of McCreesh's seventh-round knock-out of the Welshman Michael Smyth at by the sport's world governing the Rivermead Leisure Centre. "I am sick for British sport," said Robert Smith, secretary of the Board of Control's Southern Area Council, reflecting on the

crowd trouble. The first flashpoint came at the end of the sixth round when it appeared Smyth's noisy supporters suddenly intermingled with those of McCreesh.

The boxing was held up while the fighting went on outside the ring. The delay lasted five minutes, and 71 seconds later Mc-Creesh had finished the job. But the trouble flared again and

police rushed to the scene. It is the worst crowd trouble at a British promotion since Nigel Benn defended his World Boxing Council supermiddleweight title against Juan Carlos Gimenez at Birmingham's National Exhibition Cen-

RACING RESULTS

2.00 (tm2f setting stakes)
1. GUESSTIMATION.......G Faulitner 9-2

c cart. 176, 174, 575, sinct, 376, (whereit bey gelding by known Fact out of Best Guess, trained by J. Pearce, Newmarket, for The Exclusive Two Partnership) Total: win 2550 places 2190, 2160, Dual forecast: 54,70, CSF: £8,86.

2. Str (or regions aucost, 3/5)
1. COVER GIRL _______S Sanders 5-1
2. Emma-Lyne _____ A Nicholis 12-1
3. Taker Chance _____ K Falton 7-2
Also: 11 - Faw Powergold (4th), 4-1 Saltort Ryet, 7-1 Prince of Arsgon, 8-1 Bridgerd Site (5th), 25-1 Farnetia (6th).

(5th). 25-1 Fignetia (6th). 6 ran. ½, hd, 4 ½, 2 (winner chesmut filly-by Common Grounds out of Peace Cam-er, trained by Sr Mark Prescott, Newmarket, for The Speculators). Tota: win \$520; places 230, £220, £150 Duel forecast. £7630. CSF:

3.00: (1m hendicap, filies) 1 Katies Treat. 12 ran. '/-, 1, '/-, hd, '/- (winner chestrul lilly by Storm Bird out at Home Leave, trained

by J Gosden, Newmarket, for Shelich Mo-hammed) Tota: win £950; places £330, £370, £180, Dual forecast: £5390, CSF: £6666 Tri-cast: £212,87, Tota Trio: £49,70

1. NIKI L. Dettori 9-4 2. Razor K. Fallon 2-1 Fav 3. Shadow Creek R. Price 7-2 Also: 11-2 Pursuit Venture (6th), 10-1 Pariing Ecto (4th), 16-1 Monarchy (5th).
6 ran. ½, 1½, 3½, 2, 2½ (winner bay filly by Fally King out of Nicola Wynn, trained by J Gosden. Newmarket, tor George Strawbridge) Tote: win £290; places £190. £140.
Dual forecast: £400. CSF: £662.

3 ran. 6. 6. (winner bay filly by Machavel-lian out of Just A Mirage, trained by Seed bin Surgor, Newmarket, (or Godolphin). Tota: wit £120. DF: £290. CSF: £337.

Also: 5-1 Plaisr d'Amour (4th), 11-2 Calcras (5th), 13-2 Shudder (6th). 6 ran. 1/1, 1/6, 1/6, 1/6, 1 (winner bay coll by Warning out of Berford Ledy, trained by J Fanshame. Newmarket, for Berford Bloodstock). Tota: win £2.50; places £1.60, £2.70. Dual forecast: £6.40, CSF £9.04.

cast 22800. CSF: £10597. Tricast: £96584. Tote Tric: £9390 Placepol: £1100. Quadpot: £420

CATTERICK 2.20: 1, RED CHARGER (J Fortune) 6-1; 2.

Thank Heavons 4.5 fer, 3. Blackpool Rock 14-1.5 ran. 11/-, 6. (J Berry, Cocker-ham). Tota: C790: C160. C130. DF: C470. CSF. 2.50: 1. BRODESSA (A Culhane) 5-4 tay; 2. Ten Past Six 9-4; 3. Skyers A Kite 50-1, 8 ran, 1%, 7 (Mrs M Reveley, Sathum). Tote: \$280; \$100, \$140, \$770 DF: \$290 CSF \$420

3.20: 1. AFAAN (T.G McLaughén) 15-8 fav. 2. Royal Doma 3-1; 3. Lady Sheriff 7-2 6 ran. Hd, 3. (R Marvn. Doncaster) Tota: £250, £150, £180. DF £360. CSF £648 150, 150 to 150

marketi Tota: \$110, \$110, \$270 DF \$310 4.50; 1. ADESTE FIDELES (A Mulleri) 100-30; 2, Younico 100-30; 3, Disco Tex 3-1 tav 7 ran, 1%, 2% (M Bell Newmarket Tote: £260, £110, £320 DF: £430 C\$F: £1345 Pincapot: £680 Quadpot £370

FOLKESTONE 1.40: 1. FAR-SO-LA (J Quant) 33-1 2. Fire

Goddess 3-1 tay: 3. Redar O'Reilly 8-1 14 ran. 4, rik. (R O'Sullivan) Tote: £3580, £790 £180, £350, DF. £183.00 CSF £12566 Trio \$278.90 - part won. Pool of \$286.83 carried 2.10: 1. BOOMERANG BLADE (J Stack) 4-

1. 2, Sweet Charity 10-1, 3, Lethal Hope 7-1, 13 ran, 3-1 lav Zmie 3, 17, 18 Smarti Tota: £5.70; £2.20, £2.20, £480 DF £30.40 CSF, £48.61 Trio: £89.10 2.40: 1. JACK GOODMAN (PP Murphy) 9-1; 2. Dolphin Friendly 25-1, 3. Jame And 33-1, 13 ram. 2-1 tay Penang Pearl 15, nk (J Moore). Tota: \$1240, \$250, \$440, \$570 DF, \$10860, \$35, \$21143, \$100, Not won Pool

of £36174 carned for ward to Doncaster 4.40

10day 3.10: 1, ROFFEY SPINNEY (A Hughesi 4-

1, 2, Crofters Edge to 1, 3, Peaceful Sarah 9-4 fav 14 ran. 3, 1% (R Hannon) Tota; \$430, \$190, \$450, \$370 DF \$3340 CSF \$4714 Tro \$8850 3.40: 1.5 CISSOR RIDGE (J Quim) 100-30 Ji lan; 2. Ego Night 100-30 Ji lan; 2. Sea-Deer 5-1 8 ran.) 1 (J Bridger) Tote: £3.70 £170 £170 £140 DF £640 CSF £1396 7n4.10: 1 DELAYED REACTION (J F Eggn) 5-1; 2. Primaticelo 5-2, 3. King Priam 8-n ta. 5 ran. 27, 3. (N Calaghan) Tote: £700. £210 £140 DF £880 CSF £16-21 NR 4.40: 1. SEA DANZIG (R Sautholmer 6-1. 2. Ocean Park 9-4, 3. Praeditus 16-1 7 ran. 2-1 lav Iron Mountain, Nk. 1' (J Bridger). Tote: (8-0, 0210, 0260 DF: 01230 OSF;

Jackpot Not won Pool of £46,59402 car-Placepot. £175480 Quadpot. £18560

DONCASTER 6.35: 1. SUE ME (J Wilderson) 6-1 Co tav. 2. Ajned 8-1, 3. Plum First 14-1 15 ran. 6-1 Co tay Southern Dommon. Sh-hd, nd. (D. Nacholis) Tote: 66.70: 62.30, 63.30, 64.60, DF (46.10, CSF - 65156, Tincast - 6632.70, Trio

7.05: 1. EMILY'S LUCK CHARM (J Revi) 4-9 fav. 2. Patriot 100-30, 3. Bodfarl Street 4-1 4 ran. 1 . . 7 (Sir Michael Stoure) Tote: \$140 DF \$140 CSF \$206

SANDOWN

6 25: 1 DEEP SPACE (Par Eddory) 9-2 2 Clan Chief 5-2 lav. 3. Hair Tone 10-1 11 ran. 1 E Duntop, Newmanket Tone. 6:76 0250 6:170 25:50 DF 2760 035 01539 finast 20162 Tho £1950 6.55* 1. PENMAYNE IN POLICIO 9-2-2. Pilot's Harbour 9-2-3. Temmam 9-2-9 ran. 3-1 (a) Lennox (9th) 1 / / / (D Elsworth) Tota: 15-26 (170 2180 (160 DF 5770 CSF E3471 After a stewards inquiry, the placings remained unattered. The E530. 7.25: 1. MUTAMAM (R Hills) 11-8 (av; 2.

\$130 \$230 \$150 DF; \$110 CSF, \$1239

WORCESTER

5.45: 1. GOLDEN LILY (R Thornton) 16-1, 2. Pair of Jacks 20-1; 3. Cashflow Crisis 6-1, 4. Reefers Mill 10-1 24 ran, 5-1 fav Mutawak nk, 1 (A Surke), Tota: \$2080, \$350, \$3.00 \$2.90 \$3.00 DF. \$39760 CSF: 029845 Troast 0199449 NRs North Bannister Scharoo Sam Tro: 622820 - part won Pool of 022822 carried forward to Goodwood 950 on 01 08'99. 6,15: 1, BULLFINCH (C Lienelyn) Evens tav 2, Rake Hey 7-1, 3, Zorba 3-1 12 ran. 2 : 27 (R Philips) Tote: £190, £10, £230.

£130 DF £530 CSF: £769 Trio; £660, NFL Gorng For Stoke. 6,45: 1. DRAMA KING (8 Fersion) 10-1: 2. Palladium Boy 4-1, 3. Ever Smile 9-1 11 ran. 7-4 fav illegal Aken (4th), 8, 6, (8 Llewellyn), Tote: £1390; 2310, £130, £350, DF £2350 CSF, £4674, Trocast, £34873, NR.

Racing received a welcome boost vesterday when the Horserace Betting Levy Board's Annual Report announced a growth of

Denly Dora, Tro. 19-30

more than one percent in betting similar to the sum agreed for 1998. For sto "give him a breather".

a period of decline.The board plans to make a total contribution to prize money in 1999 at a level

Levy yield, with bookmakers contributing £55.5million compared to £53.7million in 1996/7 and the Tote £3million as against £2.3million. The additional revenue will allow the Board to distribute an extra fimillion to the racing industry over each of the next two years. Details of this will be decided at the Board's meeting next Wednesday. Income for the current year is likely to be reduced by around £5million as a result of the three largest bookmakers excercising their right to revert to the shop-based scheme for Levy calculation purposes. Future expenditure plans have taken this into account and the main factor in the report is that it indicates that betting on racing is starting to stabilise its share of the betting market after

tre in September 1994. McCreesh won a Lonsdale

belt outright but was robbed of the presentation by the fighting. He believes that the riot was caused deliberately by Smyth's supportThe 127th Open Champonship: A former winner is conquering his wilder instincts both on and off the course

Daly routine makes every day a challenge

BY TIM GLOVER at Royal Birkdale

WHAT PRICE an smoking, overweight, junk-food junkie winning the Open Championship? Much slimmer, apparently, than John

Daly's waistline. Daly was 80-1 when he lifted the silver claret jug at St Andrews three years ago, but he was at home at the home of golf even if he was, by his own admission, a miserable son of a

Compared with Royal Birkdale, St Andrews looks as wide as the Russian Steppes. The Lancashire links is not Daly's cup of tea for the simple reason that he is unable to unleash his Big Bertha driver "At St Andrews you can hit it left all day and be on another fairway," Daly said. "Here, if you miss a fairway you're dead. There's no

tle. Once again he is on the know. They say it does." wagon after some well-publicised lapses and yesterday the alcoholic. cigarette- reformed "Wild Thing" explained just how difficult it is to remain dry.

"I have been doing real well for the last year and three months," Daly said. He might have added one week, two days and 35 minutes. "I am winning a major every day I wake up. It's good to be back here but if I was to win the Open it wouldn't compare to what I do on an everyday basis in my life right now. People who've been through it and know what it's like could understand it, but you know your body changes. my

body has changed an awful lot. "Mentally I think I am a little tougher, but physically I am overweight and out of shape because all I want to do is eat. That's been the tough thing being in this programme. You go from one addiction to anther and mine seems to be

Wherever he is Daly attends To lose another 20lb would be meetings with bodies like real nice but this is the way I am Daly use an iron off the tee is Alcoholics Anonymous but, as he recognises, there is nothing anonymous about alcoholics. "There's drunks all over this world. Man, we're everywhere." It is possible, of course, that in the press tent Daly, who was drinking a bottle of Diet Coke, was preaching to the

about it."

onship at Crooked Stick, Indi-

in the world because I was try-

ing to find reasons why I should

be drinking."

unconverted. A manifestation of eating ana, in 1991 after getting in as burgers, pizza, steak and any chocolate he can get his hands on was that Daly's weight rose to 18st, although he has since lost about 20lb.

"I crave sugar every day. If you are an alcoholic like I am, you crave sugar when you quit drinking because alcohol turns into sugar in your body."

There has been one positive side-effect of behaving like Billy Bunter. "Actually it's helped." Daly said, "because my right arm hugs this fat belly and it Nor is there any respite from food. Hopefully that will change never gets out of place now Francisco last month when, most precious one.'

Daly's daily battle with the bot- in a few years of sobriety. I don't when I swing. When I lose once again, the course inhibitweight it flies all over the place. ed his driving.
To lose another 20lb would be "It sucks," he said. Seeing

> made. I'm made to be fat so a bit like seeing Michael Schuthere's no sense in worrying macher confined to a milk float. The problem with my life right Confounding the advice now is I don't know how against drinking and driving, the hell! am going to wake up Daly admitted that he was every morning. I don't know what mood I am going to be in. drinking heavily when he won, in the most sensational of Today I may say I am going to hit irons, tomorrow I may hit a styles, the US PGA Champidriver on the first hole."

> Given that he has no great expectations this week, it would be When he won the Open in almost miraculous for Daly to 1995, the claret jug remained win on Sunday but then again, dry but Daly was in no mood to He has been reunited with his wife, a development he degreat win but I wasn't happy personally. I had gone four and scribed as a "miracle in itself". a half years without a drink but If golf can be described as I was the most miserable guy the eternal, infernal struggle so

> in drinking a vodka-free cola. "As long as I can get through Daly was joint 33rd in the a day and not drink it is a mir-Masters and joint 53rd in the US acle," he said. "The next tour-Open at the Olympic club in San nament I win is going to be the

can Daly's ongoing experience

John Daly battles against the elements in practice at Royal Birkdale yesterday AFP

Where to find Birkdale's birds and birdies

the winning score has the trend may stop.

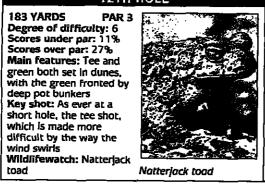
Miller's one under par in and re-contoured, Sir pected to blow as well,

higher per round than in pionship listed below. come down from Johnny With the greens rebuilt 1991. With the wind ex-

five under par in 1983 to Ian secretary of the Royal and under par for each hole dale was last year a win- largest dune system in The area provides a

OVER THE last three Baker-Finch's eight under Ancient, reckons the scor- will probably fall from the ner of the Golf Environ- the United Kingdom at sanctuary for wading Opens at Royal Birkdale, seven years ago. But there ing will be one to two shots figures for the 1991 cham- ment award run by the over 2,000 hectares and birds and rare species British and International Birkdale is just a part of of toads and lizards, as As well as being recog- Golf Greenkeepers' Asso- the Southport Sand Dunes well as being home to nanised as one of the finest ciation. The sand dunes of and Foreshore Site of Spetionally important plants 1976, past Tom Watson's Michael Bonallack, the the percentage of scores courses in Britain, Birk- the Sefton Coast are the cial Scientific Interest.

Andy Farrell



PAR 5



198 YARDS

Degree of difficulty: 9

Scores under par: 10% Scores over par: 19%

. back in the bushes

Main features: Last of the

par-threes. Elevated tee set

Key shot: Club selection tricky:

tee shot must be accurate to

avold six greenside bunkers



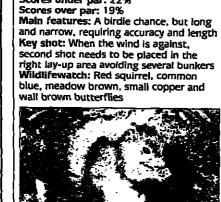
457 YARDS Degree of difficulty: 13 Scores under par: 11% Scores over par: 18% Main features: Water down the right, large dunes down the left, slight dogleg-left of the round so far, bunkers awaiting the drive both left and right Wildlifen watch: Dark green fritillary butterfly; heath gldiolet plant

177 YARDS Degree of difficulty: 15 Scores under par: 17% Scores over par: 19% Main features: New tee to the left of the old one. Shortest par-three Key shot: Mid-Iron from elevated tee to green encircled by pot Wildlifewatch: Knot, sanderling, grey plover, bar-tailed godwit,



407 YARDS Degree of difficulty: 17 Scores under par: 17% Scores over par: 8% Main features: Both tee and green sheltered from the wind Key shot: Club selection on approach shot made trickier by dead ground in front of green Wildlifewatch: Marsh pennywor and vellow rattle plants, marsh





544 YARDS

Degree of difficulty: 16

Scores under par: 22%

Wildlifewatch: Grey partridges Grey partridae

498 YARDS Degree of difficulty: 11

Scores under par: 11% Scores over par: 21% Main features: Used to be a par-five but plays as a four despite the yardage

Kev shot: New tee means fairway

bunkers are brought back into play, putting a premium on the Wildlifewatch: Grey heron

84

helleborine orchids

480 YARDS PAR 4 Degree of difficulty: 1 Scores under par: 3% Scores over par: 53% Main features: Dogleg-right. Toughesi hole on the course. especially with the wind from the left Key shots: Drive down

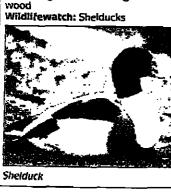
the left side, long-iron or wood approach to blind, elevated green Wildlifewatch: Fixed dune habitat

Aliffage .

547 YARDS Degree of difficulty: 18 Scores under par: 74% Scores over par: 2% Main features: Easiest hole

in 1991, but a new tee, making it a dogleg left, and a new green should mean it is tougher this time Key shot: New tee to the left means the drive has to be threaded percisely between two mounds. Wildlifewatch: Four-spotted chaser, ruddy darter and common hawker dragonflies

16TH HOLE 416 YARDS Property 2 Stores under par: 8% Scores over par: 37% Main features: Slight dogleg right. Usually plays into the wind. Almost as difficult as the sixth Key shot: Approach to a small elevated green with a long iron or Wildlifewatch: Shelducks



18TH HOLE 472 YARDS Degree of difficulty: 5 Scores under par: 7% Scores over par: 30% Main features: Appropriately demanding par-four to provide a dramatic finale Key shot: Approach shot needs to be very accurate to a green that has

on the left and one on the right Wildlifewatch: Sand lizard Sand lizard

a narrow entrance with two bunkers

403 YARDS Degree of difficulty: 10 Scores under par: 12% Scores over par: 22% Main features: Large weeping dogleg to the left makes the hole play tougher than yardage suggests Key shot: Drive must be down the right to open up the best approach to the **Wildlifewatch:** Small heath, meadow brown, grayling

Degree of difficulty: 8 Scores under par: 13% Scores over par: 24% Main features: Blind tee shot. dogleg right, elevated green Key shot: Picking the right line on the blind drive, to leave a short pitch to the green Wildlifewatch: Linnets, chaffinches,

PAR 4

411 YARDS

421 YARDS PAR 4 Degree of difficulty: 4 Scores under par: 10% Scores over par: 34% Main features: Straight into the prevailing wind. green well guarded at the Key shot: Plenty of chances to practise sand play from six greenside Wildlifewatch: Mute swans, mallards, coots, moorhens Mallard

449 YARDS

on the first

sea buckthorns

Degree of difficulty: 3 (out of 18) Scores under par: 7% Scores over par: 38% Main features: Testing opening hole with double dogleg, first left, Key shot: The drive would be tough on the 18th hole, let alone Wildlifewatch: Skylarks, willow warblers, linnets, orange-berried

Scores over par. 20% Main features: Longest short hole on the course. The green is heavily bunkered and does not gathe the ball Key shot: Tee shot needs pinpoint accuracy with - into the wind - a long Wildlifewatch: Pipistrelle bats

203 YARDS

Degree of difficulty: 12

Scores under par: 12%

344 YARDS

Degree of difficulty: 14 Scores under par: 15% Scores over par: 19% Main features: Short par-four

which doglegs to the right; green

surrounded by seven bunkers Key shot: Tiered green with new contours provides biggest putting

Wildlifewatch: Frogs, toads,

4TH HOLE

newts: green emerald, blue-tailed

Pipistrelle bat

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Whitethroats

حكذا من الاعل

butterflies

nd off the course

State Justerday AFP

-It :55-0:65

- 2013 <u>3</u>

The 127th Open Championship: Britain's most promising young amateur impresses Faldo and Els in practice round

Rose's pride among the lions

BY RICHARD EDMONDSON at Royal Birkdale

THE CLARET JUG would be a most inappropriate reward for Justin Rose should he win the Open on Sunday. He should instead hold aloft the Lemon-

ade Beaker. Britain's leading amateur will be 18 only at the end of this month. If Rose makes the cut this

week it will be considered a triumph, but whatever his fate he will take away the benefit of a golfing crammer in yesterday's practice round. When Rose saw the grid of the trial day he thought it might be a good idea to enter his name next to those of Messrs Ernie Els, Nick Faldo and Mark McNulty. They welcomed him gladly.

It was a round with the walking wounded. A field hospital should really have been trailing the party in case of deterioration to either Els's back or Faldo's elbow. Faldo will be 41 on Saturday, while McNulty is 44. The gallery was following a

Rose arrived for this tour of duty with shades perched on top of his cap, Test-match style. He is tall but that does not disguise his youth. He looks as though he has only just got off a skateboard. The young man appeared slightly embarrassed in this neon company. There were darting glances to check his etiquette was up to scratch and repeated checking of his partners' position. One step out of place and he could have damaged some rather delicate

The body language was demonstrably juvenile. Rose did not look as impressive as the establishment, but some of his shots did. On the second he actually outdrove the great Ernie, which was such an oddity that a diving swift appeared to come down to check the rel-

ative arrangement of the balls. It was possible to see this grouping as the coming together of the old and the new. Faldo is the ancient lion, an animal still with the pride although the flies are beginning to buzz around his muzzle. Rose is considered the most sublime young talent since Sandy Lyle marched through

Rose was born in South Africa and traces of the veld remain in his voice. His father. Ken, who continues to coach him, used to bribe the infant Justin with promises of a train set and sweets. The Roses assortment moved to Britain ★ when the boy was five, by which time he had already hit a lot of



Justin Rose, a strong contender to be leading amateur this week, practises escaping from a bunker at Royal Birkdale yesterday

earlier been able to give Rose

a lesson in thrift. After driving

at the eighth, Faldo apparently

lost his tee in the dune jungle.

But he was soon wading in the

grassy sea and found not only

his tee but, to great delight, sev-

eral others. You could tell it had

with a plastic club, aged 11 frontation and put it out of the silver medal, he will con-

Rose was a scratch golfer aged 12, and, two years later, he broke the North Hants course record with a 65. The same year he became the youngest player to compete in the final qualifying stages for the Open. This was the same mangle he had to come through this week, when Rose qualified second at Hillside.

In 1995, he won the English Under-16 and Under-18 titles, nte Hos and me Ston ham Trophy. The mantiepiece By ANDY FARRELL was groaning.

Rose has played at every SECURITY WAS stepped up at representative amateur level. including senior. Last August, he became the youngest ever an Open Championship. Cars Walker Cup player when he arriving at the course were competed at Quaker Ridge out- videoed and teams of police, inside New York. The tiro took the cluding sniffer dogs, searched balls. He first started swinging opening tee shot of the con- all vehicles.

bounds, out was nevertheless the sole redeeming performer in a thrashing for Great Britain and Ireland.

The amateur title remains an omission and is likely to continue to do so. If Rose performs coast, and America's Matt Kuchar is his main obstacle to

Royal Birkdale yesterday to a

level never seen previously at

sider turning professional. Next week's Dutch Open may mark the genesis of a paid career.

There is no single explosive element to Rose's game, although all his playing partners observe that there is nothing eiwith credit on the Lancashire ther in the obvious weakness column and that the teenager has a cerebral approach well be-

the move was not in response

to any particular incident or

threat against any individual.

"Merseyside Police were in-

volved with the scare at the

Grand National and obviously

with the additional worry over

the Drumcree situation they

are extra keen not to take any

yond his years. Certainly there were kind words for him yesterday. "They were encouraging and very complimentary about the way I was hitting the ball." Rose reported of his playing partners. "I was watching them hitting balls at the beginning and then I suddenly realised, wow, I've got to go and hit one

lack, secretary of the Royal cars."

abandon everything and you inmate of Liverpool prison.

thing, but they are just not pre-

pared to take any chances.

They don't want the situation to

arise that they had at the Grand

National where they had to

'Just being around with Ernie helped. You see how these players have their practice rounds and pick up the little tips, chipping from trouble towards where they think the pin placements might be."

Faldo said: "He has got a very solid swing for a 17-yearold. Gosh, I had a lot more loops

been a while since he won. Over four and a half hours after they set out, the caravan came in view of the clubhouse stands. Faldo had been his mea-Police tighten security cordon around course sured self and Els also rolled along unhurriedly. Justin had

> been a rose between two yawns Police were quick to say that chances." Sir Michael Bonal- weren't allowed back to your The young man had signed hundreds of autographs along The round-the-clock surthe way for those even younger "They don't anticipate any-veillance system, operated at than himself who thought they every Open since 1986, caught might be collecting something two people stealing balls from for the future. "I'll never forget my name after today, that for the practice range on Monday night. In 1983, the sixth green sure," he said. Now Rose has was vandalised in support of an the opportunity to ensure we do

0715: J.L. Guepy (Frt. F. Jacobs 0725: M A Jimenez (Sp), S Dunlap (US), K Tomon (Japan) 0735; "M Kuchar (US), S Torrance, S Appleby (Aus) 0745: 5 Hoch (US), P Stoland (Swet. 0755: S Stricker (US), S Ballesteros (Sp) T Watson (US)

0805: C Pavin (US), "D de Vooght (Bel), K Hosokawa (Japan) 0815: B Mayfair (US), B Glasson (US), 0825: M Calcavecchia (US), J Haeg-gman (Swe), K Fukabori (Japan) 0835: S Crik (US), J Huston, T

0845 : B Estes (US), P Baker, S Ame: 0855: B Jobe (US), R Karlsson (Swe). T Suzuki (fanan) 0905: A Magee (US). C Montgomene B Crenshaw (US) 0915: B Tway (US), C Strange (US). G Turner (NZ)

0925: B Faxon (US), L Westwood, T Dodds (Nam) 0955: T Woods (US), P-U Johansso (Sive), N Price (Zim) 1015: P Azınger, "S Garçla (Sp), T Johnstone (Zim) 1025; J Furyk (US), P Harrington,

1035: Silones (US). J Parmevik (Swei 1055: G Provin, R Dr Spring 1115: G Dodd (Aus), R Giles, Kyoung

Ju Choi (S Kor) 1125: F Howley, S Alker (NZ), L Jones 1135: F Henge (Swe), C Suneson (Sp). A Clapo 1145: T Levet (Fr). H Clark, B Davis 1155: G Brand Jnr. B May. R Davis 1215: P Mitchell, M Campbell (NZ).

1235: S Kendall (US), D Carter, C Fran-1245: J Maggert (US). P Price, N Oza-

1255: D Love III (US), I Garndo (Sp), V Singh (Flil)
1305: M O'Meara (US), N Faldo, S Maruyama (Japan) 1315: J Durant (US), R Russell, S Leaney (Aus) 1325: B Watts (US), S Lyle, Y Mizu

1335: L Janzen (US), I Woosnam, C 1345: J Daly (US). B Langer (Ger), P Stewart (US) 1355: T Kite (US), A Coltart, F Minoza (Phil) 1405: F Couples (US), J M Olazabai (Sp), R Allenby (Aus)

1415: L. Roberts (US), S. Luna (Sp), G. Cholmers (Aus) 1425: D. Hart (US), G. Orr, P. Goosen (SA)

(SA) 1455: P Mickleson (US). C Rocca (It). 1505: G Player (SA). G Day (US). P Senior (Aus) 1515: D Cooper, M Long (NZ), I

Smyth 1525: P Lawrie, M Hallberg (Swe), 5 Struver (Ger) 1535: R Bland, D Lee, M McGuire 1545: A McLardy (SA), A Oldcom, F Hedblom (Swe) 1555: "S McCarthy, I Remesy (Fr), M 1505: "J Pose. S Tinning (Den), B Dredge

1615: D Shacklady, S Armstrong, J (GB or Irl unless stated)

WHERE THE CUT WILL FALL Top 70 plus those tied in 70th place

> WEATHER FORECAST

THURSDAY Dry with bright or hazy sunny spells after morning mist burns off Dry with clear periods overnight. Mar temp 16C. Westerly wind 10-15mph. Low risk of thunder.

FRIDAY Cloud will thicken early, braiging outbreaks of rain by mid-morning. The rain will turn to showers by the evening Overnight will see a multiple of scattered showers with clear intervals. Max temp 17C. Westerly wind 10mph. 25mph by evening, Low risk of thunder becoming medium.

SATURDAY A mixture of scattered showers, some heavy and prolonged especially during the afternoon and early evening, with bright or surny intervals. Overnight will see scattered showers with bright intervals. Max temp 15C. Westerly wind 15–20mph. Moderate risk of thunder

OUTLOOK Remaining unsettled with showers or longer spells of rain

1998 PRIZE MONEY

1st £300,000 2nd £188,000 3rd £135,000, 4ch £96,000, 5ch £75,000 6ch £59,000, 7ch £49,500, 8ch £43,000, 9ch £38,700, 10ch £35,500,

LAST TEN WINNERS 1997 TROON: J Leonard 1996 LYTHAM: T Lehman 1995 ST ANDREWS: J Dah

1995 ST ANDREWS: J Daly 1994 TURNBERRY: N Price 1993 SANDWICH: G Norman 1992 MURFIELD: N Faldo 1991 BIRKDALE: I Baker-Finch 1990 ST ANDREWS: N Faldo 1989 TROON: M Calcaveccha 1988 LYTHAM: S Ballesteros

OPEN RECORDS

MOST WINS: Six: Harry Vardon 1896, 1898, 1899, 1905, 1911,

1914).
MOST RUNNER-UP: Seven: Jack
Modus (1964, 67, 68, 72, 76, 77, 79).
OLDEST CHAMPION: 46 years 99
days Old Torn Morrs (1867).
YOUNGEST CHAMPIONS: 17 years
5 months Young Torn Morris (1868):
22 years 3 months Seve Ballesteros
(1979).
YOUNGEST COMPETITOR: 14 years
4 months Young Torn Morris (1865)
OLDEST COMPETITOR: 71 years 4
months Gene Salozen (1973).
BIGGEST WIN: 13 shots Old Yom
Morris (1862).

BIGGEST WIN: 13 shots Old Yom Morris (1862). LOWEST TOTAL: 267 Greg Norman (66-68-69-64) Sandwich (1993). LOWEST ROUND: 63 M Hayes (Tumberry 1977): 1 Aoki (Muirfield 1980). Greg Norman {Tumberry 1986): Paul Broadhurst [Sr Andrews 1990): Jodie Mudd (Birkdale 1991); Nick Faido (Sandwich 1993): Payne Stewart (Sandwich 1993):

Stewart (Sandwich 1993).

LOWEST AMATEUR TOTAL: 281 Ibin

yman (Sandwich 1993): Tiger Woods (Lytham 1996). MOST TOP FIVES: 16 J H Taylor: Jack

Nicklaus. **Most Sub-70 Rounds: 33** Jack

Nicklaus: Nick Faldo. BEST FINAL ROUND TO WIN: 64

Greg Norman (Sandwich 1993). LONGEST COURSE: 7,252 yards

(Carnousne 1968). COURSES MOST USED: 25 St Andrews: 24 Prestwick.

Wild's late slip lets in Whitaker England take a youthful

EQUESTRIANISM

BY GENEVIEVE MURPHY at Harrogate

MICHAEL WHITAKER continued his family's domination of the Great Yorkshire Show when riding Virtual Village Silk to win the Daewoo Great Northern Championship, which was the major contest yesterday. He had already won here with Twostep and his elder brother, John, had triumphed in the top class on Tuesday.

Sharon Wild had the distinction of jumping the only clear round over the opening course for the Daewoo contest

rules stipulate that eight horses go through to the second round, carrying any faults for-

Michael Whitaker had forgotten this rule and was about to put his horse away after a single error, incurred when the nine-year-old Silk dropped a foot on the tape at the water. Nigel Coupe, also on four faults with Suntory, reminded his mentor and Silk therefore remained in the collecting ring.

Although he has not always looked sound, the French-bred Silk proved that he is a big, bold jumper when achieving one of only two second-round clears.

ing the little 15-year-old mare last to jump. She had been fourth in the Queen Elizabeth II Cup at Hickstead on Saturday with the same mare, who is a grand-daughter of Mill

aplomb, aiming for a steady clear round. These tactics looked sensible until the mare tipped a rail off the last, leaving Wild a gal-lant runner-up. Third place went to Richard Barton, who had eight faults in the first round but jumped clear in the second. He had the satisfaction of standing above John Whitak-

but, unfortunately for her, the He held the lead when Wild, rid- er on Diamond Cliff and Coupe. whose mount Suntory is back Dee Jays Rio Grande, came in in action after being side-lined for the best part of two years.

The Whitaker family will again be well represented in today's Midland Bank Cock o' the North Championship, which is the major contest of Reef. She again rode with great the three-day meeting with John's 18-year-old daughter Louise also having a horse through.

(Breat YORKSHIRE SHOW (Harrogate): Daewoo Great Northern Championship: 1 Virtual Village 581 M Whitaker) 4 faults, 2 rounds 46 2844, 2 Dee Jays Rio Grande (5 Wild) 4 Touts, 51 74, 3 Just Marius (R Barron) 8 Taults 43,01, William Hanson Stakes: 1 Virtual Village Iwostep (M Whitaker) (Jean 51 14sec, 2 Senaror For the Best (R Smith Clean, 55 84, 3 Pereptiot (I Whitaker) Clean, 55 84, 3 Pereptiot (I Whitaker) Clean, 57, 18

approach in South Africa

BY BILL COLWILL

and Ancient said

ENGLAND OPEN their 10-day tour of South Africa this afternoon with a warm-up game against the South African Under-21 squad in East London. They then play the first two of their five Tests in East London at the weekend, before moving on to Port Elizabeth with the final Test in Pretoria on Sunday week.

The squad arrived in South Africa yesterday with no injury problems and will want a con-

who include four players from the senior squad, to set them up for the Test series.

Although they did not qualify for the last World Cup in Utrecht. South Africa have come a long way since returning from the international wilderness, initially under their English coach, Gavin Featherstone, and their Oxford University and Reading captain. Wayne Graham.

Both have now left the scene and the new coach, Giles Bonnet has been rebuilding the side since they lost the World

vincing win against the juniors, Cup qualifier in Malaysia last

Michael Johnson, Cannock's 18-year-old midfielder, is one of eight changes to the England squad that played in Utrecht. There is also a recall for the high-scoring Bobby Crutchley along with Guy Fordham and Danny Hall, who were not available for Utrecht. The squad has a youthful look, with half the

a yourner 100K, with half the players 24 or younger.

ENGLAND SCHAD: B Wangh, D Woods, took Schrigare, B Cretchieg, M Johnson, J Lewis (all Cannock), B Barnes, D Luckes, S Head (all East Grestead), J Wyatt, H Hoskin, M Pharm (all Reddicth), R Garda (Polo Barcelona), B Garrard, J Wallace (both leddington), D Hall (Guidford), G Fordham (Hourstow).

SPORTING DIGEST

BADMINTON
WORLD RANKINGS: Mean: 1 P Gade
Christensen (Den) 351 pes; 2 Sun Jun (Ch)
316; 3 Luo Yigang (Ch) 288; 4 Dong Jiong
(Ch) 247; 5 Ong Ewe Hook (Malay) 249;
6 P.E Hoyer-Larsen (Den) 238, 7 H Hendrawan (Indon) 233; 8 H Arbi (Indon) 223;
9 Yong Hook (Mr (Malay) 216; 10 J Van
Dijk (Neth) 268; Winnesen: 1 Gong Zhichao
(Ch) 330; 2 C Martin (Den) 320; 3 Ye
Zhaoying (Ch) 278; 4 Dal Vin (Ch) 278;
5 Zhang King (Ch) 266; 6 Kim Ji-hyun (S
Kor) 262; 7 Wang Chen (Ch) 249; 8 M Pedersen (Den) 220; 9 M Aedina (Indon) 219;
10 5 Susanti (Indon) 215.

BADMINTON

BASEBALL AMPRICAN LEAGUE: Detroit 8 Kansas Ciry 3; Oakland 6 Anahelm 2; New York Yankees 7 Cevetand 1; Baltimore 11 Toron-to 5; Chicago White Sox 8 Minnesota 5; Seattle 6 Texas 3; Tampa Bay 5 Boston 4.

FOOTBALL BIDLY MATCHES (7.30 unless state-Chromotile v St. Patrick's Athletic: Bray terers v Norwich, Dorchester v Swindon Nantwich-Town v Crewe (at Witton Al-FC).

SPEEDWAY PLITE LEAGUE: IDSWICH V EASTDOURNE (7 30); Swindow V O'dord (7.30).
PREMIER LEAGUE KNOCKOUT CUP Sand-Raul Brist leg: Sheffield v Reading (7 45).

OTHER SPORTS GOLF: Open Championship (Royal Birkdale) FERMIS: Manchester Challenger (Didsbury)

Tampa Bay..... Central Division

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Montreal 2 Flori-NATIONAL LEAGUE: Montreal 2 Flori-tos 1: Chicago Cubs 7 Pittsburgh 4: Atlanta 4 New York Mets 2; Philadelphia 4 Mil-waukee 2: Cincinnati 7 St Louis 4: San Diego 8 Colorado 7: Houston 4 Arizona 2; Los Angeles 2 San Francisco 1. East Division W. L. Pet. GB

L Pct. GB ____61 32 .656 ___46 42 .523 12½ ___47 43 .522 12½ ___37 55 .402 23½ ___36 57 .387 25 Contral Division Houston55 Chicago Cubs51 Milwaukee46
 West Division
 50
 34
 638

 San Diege
 42
 553
 8

 Los Angeles
 47
 46
 505
 12%

 Colorado
 41
 53
 436
 19

 Arizona
 31
 62
 333
 28%

BASKETBALL Manchester Giants have signed the forward Tony Dorsey, who has been the Budweiser League's leading scorer for the last two seasons, from Birmingham Bullets.

CROQUET BRITISH OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS (Nurlingham Chub, London) Sliegles: P Bamford bt M Heap + 26cp + 12cp; M Av-cry bt G Noble + 3tc + 16; C Clarke bt A Mroznski - 17 + 25 + 26 Doubles: Clarke Mozaski-17 +25 +26 Dollows: Carke and Fulford bt Burrow and Najarian +26tp-5+21: Farthing and Patmore bt Cordingley and Trimmer +24tp-26tp+12. Mozaski and Williams bt Burridge and Heap+11 -4orp+26: Avery and Jardine bt Browne and Guest+17 +16tp: Barrford and Mullimer bt Noble and Vincent 134-127. Formmer and Coersthaw bt +23 +22rp. Fourneer and Openshaw bt Healy and Sheraron-Davis +23 +23; Gale and Mehas bt Bennett and Southern +1 +25tp; Comish and Maugham bt Leggare and Symons +26tp +13qnpo.

FOOTBALL

Sunderland's Lee Clark has recoverd from a hernia operation and will be fit to start the season against Queen's Park Rangers on 8 August Hibernian are to sign the 26-year-old Reading striker Stuart Lovell on a free transfer. He has scored 67 goals in nearly 200 starts and close to 60 substitute appearances since he joined Reading as a youth trainee. Liam Brady, the former Arsenal midfielder, has signed a new four-year contract as Head of Youth De-

Leicester City have extended the schedule for the move to a new 40,000 all-seater stadium at Bede Island South by one season "to allow for effective public consultation and following negotiations with the city council. The timescale of events would also allow the club to move into the stadium during the close season in time for the first full

close season in time for the first full term of the new Millennium FIFA WORLD RANKINGS; 1 Brazil 73 84pts (previous ranking 1), 2 France 70.18 (17); 3 Germany 68,65 (2) 4 Croana 66 62 (19); 5 Argentima 65 14 (6), 6 Crech Republic 64 90 (3), 7 Yugoslavi 64 17 (8); 8= Netherlands 64 07 (25) Italy, 64.07 (14), 10 England 62 66 (5) Others: 36 Scotland 48 85 (41), 47 Republic of Ireland 44,82 (46), 88 Northern Ireland 32.14 (90) 101 Wales 28 26 (102) TUESDAY'S LATE RESULTS; Friendly TUESDAY'S LATE RESULTS; Friendly

JUNIOR OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP (Formby) Leading final scores: 148 ft Inglis (500) 77 71 149 C Villegas (Coli 75 74, 152 F Molinan (Ir) 75 77 154 f Lee (NZ) 75 79. Selected: 156 P McLaughlin (Ir) 82 74, 158 R Scott (Wal) 85 73, 166 O Briggs (Eng) 86 80

POOLS DIVIDENDS LITTLEMOODS Trable chance: 21 pts E44, 129 95, 20 £302.25; 19 £22 90; 18 £3.25 Half-time results: 21 (max): £3.841 25 Four draws (paid on three draws); £27 85 Nine homes: £8 45 Six aways: £44 65 WERNOMS Treble chance: 21 pts £24.001 90; 20 £187 85; 19 £31 70 ZETTERS Trebie chance: 21pts £2 207 50 20 £23 50, 19 £0 85 Six aways: £5 00 Nine homes: £5 50 Four draws: £6,40 All draws: 20pts Four draws: £6,40 Au draws: 20ps 5549 55 19 58 20 Lucky numbers: 34 11 15 5 19 30 BRITTENS Treble chance: 21pts £1 054 00 20 £6 00. 19 £1 10 Four draws: £28 £0. Eight homes: £2 70 Six aways: £14 90

SATLING
SATLING
SATLING
FORD CORK WEEK (Crossbaven):
Leading overall positions: CMS 0 (alter fine races): 1 Sr G Mulcany (Noon-mul-Vr) 15 75pts, 2 T Mullins (Barlo Plastics) 12 00: 3 F Loftus (Desperado) i3 75 CMS 1 (after fine races): 1 K trenth (Ewa) 14.5pt. 2 R Boulter (Thunder) 22 3 D Best (Sidewinder) 23 75 CMS 2 (after fine races): 1 C Jago (Flambowani) 10.25pts, 2 G Evans (Convyni Cymro III) 17 00, 3 P Churchil (Stylet Maleri) 18 75 Sigma 38 (after four races): Cymro III 17:00, 3 P Churchili (Stoker Maker) 18:75. Sigma 38 (after four races): 1 / Titleskey (Cambril 15:75ps, 2 k Sussimia n (Mebsro) 23:3 R Lee (Fat Chance) 24:75. Sigma 38 (after two races): 1 A Hoog (Borum) 4:5pt, 2 J kelly (Moonsmer 14:75:3 I Vines and J Gluckstein (Himmony) 16:1720 (after four races): 1 1 English (Ilmino Chandlery) 16:75pt; 2 I Evans (Yorka) 20:75; 3 A O'Leary (Ford Puring): 22

SUMO GRAND TOURNAMENT (Nagoya, GRAND TOURNAMENT (Nagoya, Japan) 11th day (of 15): Kotoryu ivon bi tori 5) bit Asanowaka (5-6). Kotorumzumir (5-6) bit kaiho (4-7), Kyokushuzan (7-4) bit Wakanosaro (6-5). Magazinip (7-4) bit Wakanosaro (6-5). Kotoruczana (10-1) bit kinkaryama (5-6) Eestati isin (4-7) bit Israo (3-8), Mitoizumiri-5-tit Angiyama (6-5), Tamahasuga (8-5) or Asanovir (4-8). Asansho (6-5) bit Wikanopo (3-8). Asansho (6-5) bit rammosmma (3-9); formovalida (1-10) bt Gojoto (0-11). Tal-atoriki (6-5) bt Shikishima (4-7). Tochnonada (4-7) bt Oginishiki (2-9) by default. Musoyama (6-5) bt Kaio (3-8); Chriotaikia (8-3) bt Dejima (7-4). Takanonami (9-2) bt Musashimarii (9-2). Tochlazuma (6-5) bt Akebono (8-3): Wakanohana (9-2) bt Higonoumi (5-6). Takanohana (11-0) bt Ganyu (3-8)

TENNIS

TENNIS
LTA MANCHESTER MEN'S CHALLENGER (Didsbury) Singles, first
round: M Petchey (GB) bt K Rudman (SA)
6-3-6-0. S Pescosolido (It) bt J Boruszewsin (Ger) 6-4-6-4. C Wilkinson (GB) bt A
Parmar (GB) 7-6-6-1. L Multigan (GB) bt
A Dupurs (Fr) 6-3-6-4. M Draper (Aus.) bt
W Arthurs (Aus.) 7-6-3. A Radulescu (Ger)
bt N Gould (GB) 6-2-6-4. J Degado (GB)
bt I Mitchell (Aus.) 7-5-6-1. M Navarta (It)
bt C Bennett (GB) 6-1-6-4. J Degado (GB)
bt G Mandi (Aut.) 7-5-6-1: O Mults (Fr)
bt G Mandi (Aut.) 7-5-6-1: O Mults (Fr)
bt R Wassen (Neth) 6-1-6-2.
PALERMO WOMEN'S GRAND PRIX (Fr) bit R Wasser (Neth) 5-1 b-2.

PALERMO WÖMEN'S GRAND PRIX (Sicily, it) Singles, first round: 3 Capnah (US) bit L Nemeckova (Cz Rep) 6-1 6-4 A Cocheteor (Fr) bit M Daz Onya (Arg) 6-2 6-4 P Boblova (Cz Rep) bit A Serra Zaneth (it) 6-7 7-5 6-2; P Stoyanova (Bul) bit J Nandam (Ger) 4-6 6-0 6-2.

women's CHALLENGER OF MAN-WAH (New Jersey) Singles, first round: Fang Li (Cn) bt D Graham (US) 6-3 6-2. J Watanabe (US) bt E DeLone (US) 6-47-6 J Fernandez (Mes) bt N Pratt (Aus) 6-37-5. J Pullin (GB) bt S Jevascelan (Can) 7-5 6-4. L Lazimer (GB) bt M Pratie (Can) 6-4 6-2. H Rosen (Isr) bt J Steven (US) 7-6 6-2. K Randi (US) bt J Steven (US) 6-4 6-4. A Frazier (US) bt J Ch (US) 6-4 6-2.

6-4 6-2 LTA WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL (Prin-

(Aus) bt K Moulds (Aus) 6-1 3-6 7-6; M Joubert (SA) bt M Raucajoh (Fin) 6-2 3-0 ret: E Morel (Fr) bt K Hunt (Aus) 6-1 6-0; I Dawson (BB) bt M Santangelo (It) 6-4 6-0. I Musgrave (Aus) bt H Marthews (BB) 6-1 6-4. Second round: L Ahl (GB) bt S Shoeffel (Fr) 6-4 6-3: C Taylor (GB) bt H Crook (GB) 6-0 3-6 6-3; L Jell's (GB) br I Herse (Gen) 4-6 7-5 6-4; V Davies (GB) bt N W6oodhouse (GB) 6-7 7-6 6-1; L McShea (Aus) bt A Prilay (SA) 0-6 6-0 6-0; T Musgrave (Aus) bt D Jouson (GB) 6-3 7-5; N Johnston (Aus) bt A Stueckie (Ger) 6-2 6-3; E Morel (Fr) bt M Joubert (SA) 6-4 5-7 6-3

TODAY'S

in the latest world football rankings. The new mark is a heady rise of one place, but still leaves them behind Gabon, Sierra

NUMBER 101

The position Wales occupy

Leone and Vietnam.



O'GRADY'S RAID AT TOUR DE FRANCE P22 • HANNON DREAMS OF ANOTHER FANTASY P24



History is the goal for Westwood

at Royal Birkdale

FOUR DAYS after Emmanuel Petit provided a dramatic finale to the World Cup, Jean Louis Guepy will give the 127th Open Championship a Gallic send off at 7.15 this morning. Guepy is no Arnaud Massey, the 1907 champion down the road at Hoylake, and there the French influence may end. Whether a British influence will prevail at Birkdale for the first time is in the hands of the assorted trio of Nick Faldo, Colin Montgomerie

and Lee Westwood. Each represents faith, hope and expectation. Faldo's faith has had to be of the blind variety as he battles to overcome the elbow injury that struck him down at Loch Lomond last week and it is not one shared by the bookmakers as they marked the three-time champion down to 50-1.

"I feel a lot better than a 50-1 shot," Faldo protested. "My arm is doing great. I played a proper round today and didn't hold back on anything."

The injury may even prove a blessing in disguise. Faldo will at least be fresh, as the workaholic has hit barely a hundred balls this week "I normálly hit that many in half an hour," he said. His record of missing four cuts in the last six majors is another factor in the lack of faith in a player who has won six majors, but Faldo is not a man to be written off.

"I believe there will be a turnaround in the next couple of months," he said. As for the possibility of winning another major, Faido spluttered: "Definitely, certainly, no problem." Montgomerie can only hope he will become the 16th successive different winner of a major. His record of only one top-10 finish in eight Opens is not encouraging.

The Scot's policy this week is to stay relaxed. He arrived only on Tuesday afternoon, playing nine holes that day and nine early yesterday morning. All he was looking for was a little rhythm, the rest of the time was for dreaming. "I am a British sportsman and this is the British Open. Obviously this would be the pinnacle of anyone's career."

The expectation lies with Westhottest winning streak in golf with seven wins in the last nine months. A month ago at San Francisco he recorded his highest ever finish in a major - seventh in the US Open and the next step is for him to contend for a title.

With five wins in a similar time scale. David Duval is Westwood's equivalent from the States and his has been the name doing the rounds in the caddieshack as a potential win-



Nick Faldo is forced to play his way out of trouble on the second hole during practice at Birkdale yesterday

David Ashdown

ner. The reasons are his ability to work the ball and cope with the windy conditions which are forecast to continue through the championship.

The finest ball-strikers can be expected to come to the fore over the next four days and that means Ernie Tiger Woods and the defending champion, Justin Leonard, must head the contenders. The only doubt about the South African is his dodgy back, while Woods flattered to deceive at Royal Troon.

Woods got backing, however, from Tom Watson, the 1983 champion at Birkdale. "Tiger is going to win a British Open, there is no question," said Watson, who also comes into an older group of contenders which inchides Nick Price and Mark O'Meara.

Such is the level of competition these days that players will do anything to get an edge. This year's fad seems to involve clutching at the cliche that says it is advisable to "beware the injured golfer". The queues at the physiotherapy unit have been than those expected in the Southport area from this morning and Lehman yesterday became the latest

to go in search of healing hands. The American, who won the title two years ago at Lytham, was in-volved in an incident at a funfair near Southport and appeared in a sling. "I was messing around with the kids," said the 39-year-old father of three. "I have a strain in my right shoulder but I will be fine. I will definitely be playing."

Last year Lehman had to have the odd dent repaired before returning the claret jug. Not so this time. "We took good care of it," Leonard said. This is no less than can be expected of a highly organised 26-year-old. "It was put to good use. We drank champagne from it a few times after I won and a few times more before I had to give it back."

One of the pleasant side-effects of his victory was that we had an Open champion able to give an eloquent speech. He was at it again on Tuesday evening when he received a memento of his win from the Association of Golf Writers. "I don't know what a quiche is," Leonard said. "But I'm sure I will love it. And years to keep in step with the other if I don't, I'm sure my mum will."

He added: "I don't think there is one experience that could describe the last year, how much fun it has been and how much I have learnt. You know, it is not something that's easily put into words."

By a fluke of timing, it was announced yesterday that the first prize at each of the three new World Championship events next year will be a minimum of \$1m (around £625,000). That will dwarf the £300,000 on offer to the winner on Sunday but Sir Michael Bonallack, the secretary of the Royal and Ancient, is unconcerned. "We will continue to advance the prize fund as we have done in the last few major championships, but we will

not be following other events," he

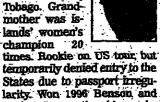
There is no need. Westwood would be in line to receive a \$1m bonus if he added a Birkdale triumph to his win at Loch Lomond but says that is immaterial. For the next four days a sport usually driven by economics reverts to a game where glory and a

place in history is at stake. "This is the one I'd dearly like to win and the one I get the most excited about," said Davis Love, the US PGA champion. "This is the oldest and probably the greatest tournament in the world. Each major and each big tournament has got something special, but this is probably the one that most guys would want to win more than any other."

FOUR TO **FLY IN** THE WIND

STEPREN AMES

Canadian based player from Frinidad and Tobago Grandmother was islands' women's



DARREN CLARKE

Hedges International in a gale.

ahead of Faldo and Monty.

Joint first round leader with Jim Furyka year ago at Troon when wind was up on the opening day. Went on to finish

second to Leonard despite, by his own admission, not being at the top of his game. Winner this season at the notoriously windy Oxfordshire in the B&H International Stoutly-built and can hit ball extremely low.

JUSTIN LEONARD Distinctive flat

swing honed in Texas, which has a history of producing good wind players. Filled with grit

and determination, as shown on the opening day last year. Despite playing back nine into a gale, Leonard parred home. Putter polished the job off on Sunday.

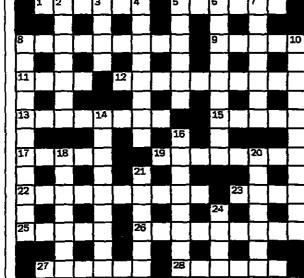
IAN WOOSNAM

The Welshman's low centre of gravity gives him a natural advantage in the wind. Won the 1996 Scottish Open at



Carnoustie when even the locals admitted it was more than breezy. Second at Loch Lomond Still striking the ball as well as ever, just needs to regain confidence on the greens.

THE THURSDAY CROSSWORD



ACROSS Composed and pro-

duced a hit (6) 5 Faction or branch of society (6)

8 Battling in metal suit -9 Left German's house

11 Order to march (4) getting drunk (6)
12 Tentative cutting round 28 Skilful former forward 11 Order to march (4) edges of drape (10) 13 Do up or do over, neat

15 Relation wearing green, mostly (2-3)

17 Drive and spirit shown by the Spanish (5) 19 Icons are destroyed in

22 Commotion in port?

sequence of events (8)

indifferent (10) 23 Bird endlessly circling 6 hill (4)

25 Duck beginning to develop comb (5) the best imaginable (9) 26 Keen about trendy English property (9) 27 Admonition for minor

> DOWN 2 Spanish language finds family group inwardly

at one (7) Sheep initially prepared for dip (4) Set off for college in 5 It's understood county's 500 for ten (6) Officer, eminent one, is

in pile-up (9) How testing! (2, 5) A French vessel trawled around, without tackle (11) 10 Very flowery on edge

14 Countryfolk almost depraved on drinks (9) 16 Search for sponge (8) 18 Attendant's carrying

20 One in a stag party? (3-21 Amount of brass advanced (6)

24 Best dressing for river

wrong sack (7)

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Kanchelskis joins the Ibrox influx

FOOTBALL

BY ALAN NIXON AND PHIL SHAW

ANDREI KANCHELSKIS returned to British football yesterday when Rangers broke the Scottish transfer record to sign the former Manchester United and Everton winger for

The 29-year-old Ukrainian becomes new coach Dick Advocaat's fifth summer signing and takes the Ibrox club's spending over £20m. Kanchelskis, who spent nearly two years in Italy with Fiorentina after leaving Everton, has signed a four-year contract.

It is the third time Rangers have spent over £5m on a player this summer after the acquisitions of the Netherlands' international duo Artur Numan and Giovanni van Bronckhorst. Kanchelskis' signing is a

major coup for the club and will fill the creative void left by the departures of Paul Gascoigne and Brian Laudrup.

"I am very happy to be in Glasgow," Kanchelskis said vesterday. "I think Rangers are one of the best (teams) in Europe and the coach and the chairman were both very keen for me to sign."

Rangers' Uefa Cup match with the Irish team Shelbourne in Dublin has been called off on safety grounds. The first-round, first-leg tie was due have gone ahead at Dublin's Tolka Park stadium next Wednesday, but it

The former Rangers and current Everton manager, Walter Smith, is hoping to bring David Unsworth back from West Ham. Smith has spoken to the Hammers about the unsettled Unsworth, who wants to return to the North-West for family reasons. Smith is willing to pay £1.5m for Unsworth and would be interested in throwing players into an exchange deal. Everton, meanwhile, com-

pleted the signing of the Italian centre-half, Marco Materazzi, from Perugia for £3m yesterday. The Blackburn striker, Kevin Gallacher, could miss the start

of the season after having a hernia operation. Gallacher is the fourth Blackburn player to undergo an operation this summer, following midfielder Billy McKinlay and wingers Jason Wilcox and Damien Duff.

First Division Barnsley have signed Derby's club captain, Robin Van der Laan, for £325,000. Van der Laan, 29, became Jim Smith's first signing for the Rams in the summer of Vale for £750,000. Smith immediately made him captain and he led the side into the top flight in his first season. Van Der Laan's appearances were hampered

last season by an ankle injury. The Tottenham manager. Christian Gross, is ready to make Ipswich's Argentinian full-back Mauricio Tarrico his first summer signing in a deal worth around £2m. Tarrico, has been postponed due to who can play on either flank, coaching staff.

their run to the promotion playoff stages last season.

James Kelly, the former Wolves midfielder who received a five-year prison sentence for manslaughter in 1996, has signed for Hednesford Town on his release. The Vauxhall Conference club's manager, John Baldwin, described the 24-yearold Merseysider as "a quality player". Kelly was jailed after the death of a man following an argument at a wedding recep-

Liverpool took a step closer to signing Norwegian defender Vegard Heggem yesterday when they agreed a fee with his club Rosenborg. The highly regarded 22-year-old is due at Anfield on Monday to discuss personal terms and should be a Liverpool player soon after that, Liverpool refused to confirm the fee, but it is believed to be 23m. Heggem missed the World Cup because of injury but he has since recovered and is back playing.

The former Liverpool caretaker manager Ronnie Moran 1995 when he joined from Port is to retire after almost 50 years' service at Anfield. Moran joined the Reds after leaving school in July 1949 and played 379 times for the club before joining the coaching staff. He served as caretaker manager following Kenny Dalglish's departure in 1991. Dalglish, now the manager at Newcastle United, yesterday recruited the former St James' Park player, Tommy Craig, to the Magpies'

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THURSDAYREVIEW

COMMENT • FEATURES • ARTS • LISTINGS • TELEVISION

rofits are at an all-time high, supplies are plentiful and the customers are not only satisfied, they're hooked. The illegal drugs industry has never had it so good. As this chilling 'company report', leaked to The Independent from the headquarters of Drugs (UK) plc, reveals...

BY PAUL LASHMAR

عكذا من الاحل

AS CHAIRMAN of the board of Drugs (UK) plc I am pleased to report to our directors and shareholders record sales last year. Our core business remains the importation. distribution and retail of il-

The overall value of our industry is, by its nature, hard to gauge. But for the first time our own estimates have been confirmed by official figures suggesting that we now have a turnover worth up to £10bn a year. The Office of National Statistics report issued last week said that this reflects up to 2.5 per cent of all consumer spending

Our turnover, which I think you will agree is impressive, is almost comparable with the British wine and spirit industry's £12bn per year. As you can see from our profit and loss account, we have provided exceptional return on your ven-

Market penetration of all our products has increased over the last year in all demographic and geographic areas. About 48 per cent of 16-24-year-olds now say that they have used illegal drugs, an increase of 3 per cent on 1994. There remains a great of scope for expansion. Only one-lifth of those who have used our products are regular purchasers.

We have made strenuous efforts to break away from our traditional inner city urban image and are breaking into new regions, especially in rural areas. Confirmation of our success came from the independent commentator on the drugs market, "drugs tsar" Keith Hellawell, last week: "Traditionally addicts came from broken homes, or deprived backgrounds. We are now getting a new group, people from the more affluent rural areas. They are often high achievers from stable homes, and they are becoming addicted to drugs."

In a year of notable successes, first I must congratulate our employees in the heroin subsidiary for their strenuous efforts to expand the downstream business. As our long-term investors will know, this sector has mainly supplied a small but dedicated group of highspending consumers. Official estimates suggest 40,000 registered users and a maximum of 160.000 regular purchasers.

As a result of innovative marketing strategies, we have increased our consumer base at the rate of some 20 per cent per annum. We have been able to improve supply of this drug and to continue a 10-year trend of price-cutting to expand our customer base. We are currently watching with interest new, localised schemes building on this success.

Our sales team are encouraging inhalation of heroin, as this has shown to have a better image than mainline methods. Our new strategy of packaging in special cheap 🕰 "one hit wonders appears to be highly effective in attracting the youth market. In some areas we supplied heroin to the school age market at below retail cost. This "loss leader" scheme is designed to give early exposure to our products to potential long-term consumers.

Although the price of heroin has dropped in recent years from £90 a gram to £45 a gram, the profit margin remains high. We have also been able to increase the purity of our products at street level. As in previous years, heroin produces a high and sustained return on investment.

Our cocaine subsidiary has had a buoyant year. Growth has been gradual and times have changed from the late Eighties where our City business experienced a boom period. Our white powder is primarily an upmarket product, and we hope to hold sales steady

through the anticipated recession. Purchases of crack cocaine, our economic target group, have outstripped those of the classic powder product. Market research shows that our 173,000 regular cocaine consumers spend an average of £780 per annum on this drug. However, dedicated users spend up to £20,000 per year, far greater expenditure than on any of our other

products. We also have a large "impulse buy" market for this product. Cannabis remains our biggest-selling brand. Our core group is some 1.73 million regular customers and each is estimated to spend some £600 a year on our cannabis range. Market research shows that one in three 14-15-year-olds have sampled at least one product from this range, and that 70 per cent of this

age group know one of our sales representatives. We have maintained prices at around £3.50 a gram. Cannabis presents a difficult import challenge due to its bulk compared with class A drugs. It takes around 70 tonnes a year to supply our current client base. Our cannabis and synthetic drug di-

vision has kept up its close contacts with Holland, which leads the world in stateof-the art exportation techniques. Our Dutch colleagues have expanded operations and continue to develop the manufacturing base for our synthetic products.

The most important of these synthetic brands, ecstasy, continues to sell well, although it has never quite lived up to the promise of late Eighties. We believe the problem with this product is user tolerance which while temporarily increasing sales, deters long-term use. Our chemists are working with our Dutch colleagues in the research and development division and are looking for a new product range that overcomes this problem.

I welcome the extension of the European Community. Reducing border controls has expedited shipments and reduced bureaucracy. Recent experience has shown that the Channel Tunnel is an efficient route for importation if not overused.

The upheaval in eastern Europe has opened a variety of new trade routes. In addition we have an extensive recruiting strategy in the former Communist countries. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome our new Romanian and Czech colleagues.

One note of caution. The biggest current threat to our business is the mounting number of health scares associated with our brands. We have for many years been able to present cannabis as totally harmless. Recent research has caused worries and has deterred some casual consumers.

Ours is always a high-risk industry. Seizures by Customs and police have increased, but we feel this reflects the continuing expansion of our import arm. According to the latest figures released yesterday. Customs last year seized our products to the value of £3.3bn between 1997 and 1998, including 1.7 tonnes of heroin.

In January, Scotland Yard claimed that they had "seriously disrupted" supplies of heroin by knocking out a distribution centre in North London. The continuing drop in the price of this product I think speaks for itself.

Customs claimed to have eliminated 130 of our import and distribution franchises. Sadly, this is an occupational hazard of our business. Drugs (UK) plc's Liverpool area manager. Curtis Warren. 34. noted for his aggressive leadership style, has moved to new pastures. While overseeing a shipment from Holland, the Dutch police recognised his innate organising talents and the Netherlands prison service made him an offer he could not decline for a 12-year contract.

 \Box

product targeted at a lower socio- David Santini, 31, who had made a similar impact as our main heroin distributor in Scotland, has received a 13year contract from the British Prisons

> In the UK, heroin deaths rose from 52 to 186 in three years. We regret the loss of such regular customers. I also deprecate the increase in the use of firearms that has, unfortunately become synonymous with our business. This damages our corporate image and attracts excessive interest from the police. Some 95,000 of our workers and customers were arrested in 1996, up from 86,000 in 1994.

Drugs (UK) plc business has also contributed to our allied industries, theft and prostitution. One recent report sugested that just 664 of our regular heroin purchasers had been involved in some 70,000 theft offences in a three-

On the broader front it has been an eventful year. Regarding legalisation, we were troubled by the campaign run by a national newspaper and the increasing number of police officers and other prominent figures who favour the legalisation of cannabis.

As I have pointed out in the past, legalisation presents a threat to our control over the industry. We believe we provide an exemplary 24-hour "drugs direct" service with no expensive headquarters or showrooms, no advertising, no tax - just personal contact with our extensive network of salesmen.

We were initially concerned at the arrival of a new government, especially one that included some members who had personal past knowledge of our product range. Worries that it might precipitate a radical change of policy proved groundless. We lobbied to encourage the Government to maintain the traditional "war on drugs" position. I am glad to say that both the Prime Minister. Tony Blair and Home Secretary have continued to support this hard-line stance.

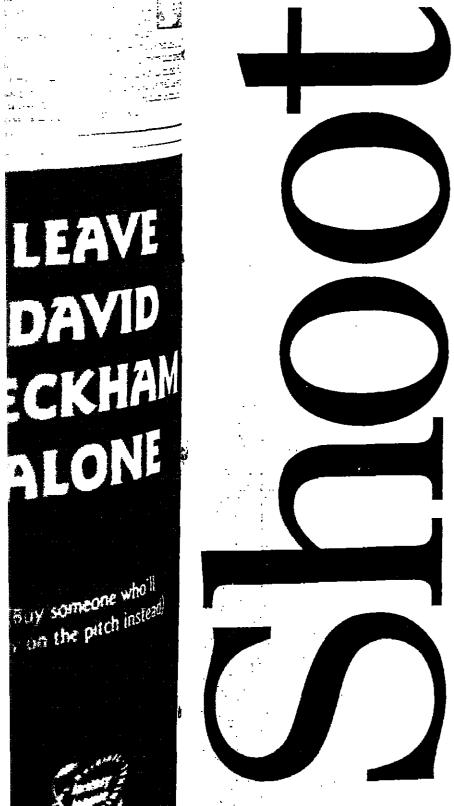
I emphasised to the Government our commitment to the one truly free market. I also feel we have entered into the spirit of Labour's "New Deal" by providing employment for many considered unemployable in mainstream business.

On the negative side the Government appointed a "drug tsar" in October. This was followed in March by a considered "White Paper" policy document that moved away from the political hyperbole we bave seen in the past. However, despite a number of well considered suggestions I do not envisage any substantive impact on our business.

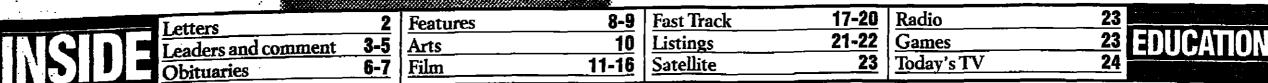
I would also like to express my gratitude to the Chancellor for increasing the taxation on alcohol and tobacco. This has meant our products can provide more "bang for the buck". compared to the cost of a pint of bitter or a glass of wine. This has been a major incentive for our customers among the young and unemployed.

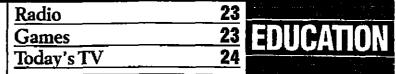
For politicians who take a high moral tone 0.1 our trade I would draw attention to the report by a leading expert, Rowan Bosworth-Davis, who says that the flow of drugs money from the indebted Third World countries is helping to keep the Western banking system afloat. He estimates that by 2004 the value of the drugs fund world-wide will be £1,500 bn (£937bn) - equal to the value of the world's stock of gold.

Prospects for the next five-year period look promising. We should continue to trade on our image as a leisure industry service provider. While we cannot afford to be complacent in a fast changing market, we see nothing on the horizon that poses a serious threat to maintaining and developing our trade for the foreseeable future.









Jerry Seinfeld's appearance at the London Palladium the other day, the American comedian invited the audience to name subjects for him to comment on. "Drumcree!" shouted someone.

He blanched. Well, he said, as far as he understood the situation, he gathered the Orange Order commemorated some battle fought 200 years ago. He said he had news for the Orange Order. "The game's over, fellows!"

Everyone cheered. But I don't expect many people laughed. There is a perfectly simple reason for this, and it is nothing to do with murders and deaths and the Quinn family. The reason that comedians don't do jokes about Orangemen is that it is hard to be funny about something which is laughable already.



MILES KINGTON

The devil doesn't just have all the best tunes, he has the best jokes too

George Mikes once said that no subject should be safe from humour, but he was wrong. There is an exception. You should never try to be funny about something which is funny already, and high on the list of things that are destined to be ridiculous is a line of bowler-hatted bigots marching backwards through history to the sound of bad Boy Scout music and thinking how grand they are.

Oh, you hear people making occasional jokes about the Orange marching season to the effect that this seems a lot of fuss to make about one mobile phone company, but their hearts are plainly not in it. I have heard Dublin comedians try to make capital out of the Orange marches. You know what the Catholics should do when the marchers come through their area?, one comedian asked. They should march with them! Bring their own bands! Join in and make a real party of it! (He had a good point there. But it wasn't that funny.)

So, if comedians don't like to be funny about the funny side of life and can't get laughs out of it, what do they like to be funny about? The other side, of course. The sad and doomed side, the weak and shameful side of our nature.

People make jokes about death and disease, sex and madness, poverty and privation. They make jokes about arrogance and intolerance,

ACCORDING TO one review of race and gender, injury and humiliation, drunkenness and failure. What they don't make jokes about are the really nice things in life which is why there are lots of jokes about sex and very few jokes about love. The devil doesn't just have all the best tunes; he has the best jokes, too.

If you don't agree that we like to laugh at the dark side of life, you only have to think of one of the funniest TV serials of recent times, Blackadder, the canonisation of the cad. The central figure was the personification of cowardice, lust, dishonesty, cruelty, greed and almost any base motive you care to think of. It was almost always incredibly funny. And Blackadder is only the most recent in a long line of men behaving badly in history.

If you don't remember

Squire Haggard, the wonderfully foul-mouthed, ruthless and murderous 18thcentury comic villain dreamt up by Michael Green, then you only have to think of Flashman, the wonderfully lascivious coward made flesh by George Macdonald Fraser. My favourite character from all the characters invented by Beachcomber was Captain Foulenough, who was the most dastardly of society scroungers and who even taught his son to cheat efficiently at cards, leading to the immortal pronouncement during a poker game: "Father, that is not the hand I dealt

You can, of course, try to get humour out of goodness. But you won't get very far. Father Ted was a comedy based on three Catholic priests living together in the same house. There weren't many laughs based on the saving of souls. The humour came from such priestly attributes as drunkenness, lechery, violence, greed, naked ambition, stupidity and hatred. And wonderfully funny it all was, too.

To give Catholics their due, the best anti-Catholic stories have always been told by Catholics. It is, however, very difficult to imagine Orangemen sitting around after a hard day's marching, telling anti-Orange jokes to each other. Their humourlessness is one of the things that make them so risible in the first place.

To be honest, the only real mark that the Orange order is ever going to make on the world of comedy is in cartoons. For a century or more, when a cartoonist drew a man with a bowler, you knew it was meant to be an Englishman, just as a man with a beret was meant to be French. No more. If you now drew a man with a bowler, people would think it was meant to be an Orangeman.

Which means that men with bowlers may vanish altogether from cartoons. For who would want to draw an Orangeman, and then have to think of something funny to

THE REVIEW

DAY BY DAY

MONDAY REVIEW

As well as our regular columnists, features

and expanded comment pages, Network, our

information technology section, moves to Monday.

Tuesday Review

An improved media section, with appointments,

moves to Tuesday. Visual arts and more health pages are

also Tuesday regulars

WEDNESDAY REVIEW

Fashion, midweek money pages, in addition to

finance and secretarial sections (previously City+) will stay

on Wednesday

Thursday Review

Our education section will appear as a separate tabloid section. Improved and expanded film pages now

move to Thursday

FRIDAY REVIEW

The architecture and science pages now move to Friday. In addition, we will have a new law

section and our music pages

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In the fourth of our series on Battersea Dogs Home, staff prepare to cut away the padlock and chain around the neck of an anxious-looking new arrival

Tom Pilston

X. .

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Post letters to Letters to the Editor and include a daytime telephone number, fax to 0171 293 2056 or e-mail to letters@independent.co.uk E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address. Letters may be edited for length and clarity

Spend and tax

Sir: On 9 April 1997 you were good enough to publish my letter commenting on Labour's manifesto commitment to increase education spending as a proportion of GDP, via a reduction in social security spending as a proportion of GDP. over the course of their first five-year

The essential conclusion in my letter was that it would not prove possible to reduce social security spending as a proportion of GDP, and that any increase in expenditure on education a proportion of GDP would have to be met out of increased taxation. Now that the Treasury have published their tax and public spending projections for the whole of the current parliament, it is possible to review the position in detail. The Conservatives' final year of office was 1996/97 and the final year of Labour's first five-year term is likely to be 2001/02.

The Treasury figures, based on the final figures if 1996/97 and the projections for the rest of this parliament, show the following. a) Education spending to increase, as a proportion of GDP from 4.9 per cent in 1996/97 to 5.2 per cent by

b) Social security spending, as a proportion of GDP, to remain roughly constant on a like-for-like basis over the same period at around 12 per cent of GDP. c) Taxation, as a proportion of GDP,

to increase on a like-for-like basis from 36 per cent in 1996/97 to 38.4 per cent in 2001/02. Meanwhile a Treasury parliamentary answer dated 22 December 1997 estimates that such an increase is worth and extra 223bn per annum (ax revenue by 2001 02 as compared with 1996 97. equivalent to around 10p on the basic rate of income tax.

The conclusion to be drawn from the above figures is that the modest increase in education spending as a proportion of GDP will be paid for out of a significant tax hike, and not out of reduced social security spending.

It may be that there is nothing wrong in principle with putting up taxes to increase spending on education; many would argue that it is a sensible investment in the country's future. However, and in the interests of open Government, it would be helpful if the Treasury could confirm that this is indeed what is now planned. M C FTTZPATRICK Head of Economics Chantrey Vellacott London WC1

Loyalists at bay

Sir: Your editorial and correspondence columns, like the rest of the media, have been filled with anti-Orangemen articles and letters. There has been a marked lack of any attempt to understand their view. It is difficult to see how demonising any section of the community in Northern Ireland is going to help bring about a peaceful and harmonious society there.

The Protestants largely see themselves as a threatened minority within greater Ireland, where the

Catholic, nationalist majority, they believe, wishes to destroy the Protestant culture, if not the people. This is why the separate province exists at all.

The Orange perception is that, whenever they make concessions, the other side, instead of reciprocating, simply comes back for more. The English media and British Government seem hell-bent on encouraging them in that view. Consider how it looks to Irish Protestants; they wished to conduct a traditional and legal march. Some nationalists threatened illegal violence against them. The Government responded by making the march illegal. They gave up nine out of ten annual marches at Drumcree, the nationalist community responded by even more vehemently demanding that the one remaining should be given up too. When the Protestants make conciliatory moves, they are treated as being on the run, and the mob howls for more.

Your own letters page is given over not to rational debate but to nitpickers. They triumphantly produce arguments about the semantics of the term "loyalist", and how many people of which religion died on the mme, as if these are useful insights that will persuade the Orangemen of the error of their ways. One of them even indulges in a piece of blatant racialism, pointing out that the Orangemen are "descendants of Scots planted by the English". Words like these reinforce the most extreme fears, that nationalism is a dream not of a united country but of one cleansed of non-Gaels.

What is desperately needed is a esture of support for the Orangemen from those they fear. Then they might stop behaving like cornered animals. An offer to lead the march by the Irish President is the kind of thing I have in mind. So long as everyone merely pokes sticks at them they are certain to react by aggressively defending their rights as they see them. C PADLEY Market Rasen. Lincolnshire

No unkind cut

Sir: As someone who according to Jeremy Laurance's article on Circumcision ("Doctors campaign for end to circumcision", 13 July) does not enjoy my sex life and whose sexual partners find no fulfilment in having sex with me, might I respectfully suggest that they pull their foreskins from over their heads and stop talking such nonsense.

That circumcision should be done by qualified trained practitioners and experienced doctors goes without saying. As regards the child suffering traumatically when operated on as a baby of a week or so. I have always wondered why I personally could raise very little sexual interest in females until I was 12 years old. Now thanks to his article I have now been enlightened.

Circumcision at an early age. as painful and as gory as it may look, is not so painful to the child as it is to the uninitiated observer. The foreskin, just like the appendix or the tonsils, is not an essential organ and

the male is probably better off without it. Its removal can prevent suffering in later years from various illnesses. Partners are less likely to contract cancer of the vagina.

Perhaps those people Jeremy Laurance writes about might serve mankind better if they raised their sights above their loins and concentrated their thoughts on more serious matters. D WARNER Stanmore, Middlesex

Sir: I note in the article "An unkind and unnecessary - cut" (14 July) that the Board of Deputies of British Jews regards with scepticism the idea of a civil claim for damages from a circumcision. I would say in response, "Watch this space".

Many men like me who have had their lives blighted by this mutilation have been waiting for the chance to pursue litigation and it seems we now have the necessary evidence of damage PHILIP D SMITH

Stone. Staffordshire

Paedophile risks

Sir: Anne Treneman's report "A very English lynch mob" (10 July) gave an interesting analysis of the public debate over released paedophiles. but more needs to be said about the dramatic shift in policy towards protecting children instead of waiting until it is too late.

Communities in every area, urban and rural, need protection from the risk posed by sex offenders, and in particular paedophiles. Abusing the trust of children, they ruin childhoods and wreck lives and for this reason I can wholly understand the concerns of residents in Wing about Robert Oliver.

It is imperative, however, that these concerns are not taken out of context and it is understood that for the first time action is being taken in a structured and consistent way by the police, probation and child protection agencies to protect children from identified paedophiles.

All sex offenders released from prison must now register their name and address with the police. A national steering group has been set up to oversee their resettlement into the community under suitable Supervision.

Paedophiles who are convicted of a second sexual offence now face automatic life imprisonment, ensuring that they can be kept in custody indefinitely if they are assessed as posing a significant risk; the aim is to prevent any second offence.

If an offender's behaviour poses a threat police will be able to apply for a Sex Offender Order to prevent them loitering near playgrounds or schools. Action is also being taken to prevent sex offenders working with children.

We are working with agencies to saleguard children in our communities but those communities must also play their part.

The ill-considered actions and irresponsible behaviour of some parents, however understandable the emotion that makes them learful for the safety of their children. creates possibly the greatest risk of

all, that of driving paedophiles underground, out of the sight and care of the professionals who are best placed to contain them.

Offender like Robert Oliver and Sidney Cooke cannot be resentenced for their crimes. I fully understand why parents are angry and fearful but they should work with us and not against us to ensure that they do not increase the very danger that they

ALUN MICHAEL Minister of State Home Office London SW1

Good value

Sir: The headline "University chiefs waste £1m" (13 July) regarding the Higher Education Business Enterprises (Hebe) company was highly misleading.

Universities and colleges did not waste money; they actually got good value for their expenditure on Hebe. Each university and college invested £6,000 and these funds helped develop a number of initiatives. These included a CD-Rom on undergraduate courses, directories of postgraduate courses, and course fairs, all of which are still run successfully today by other agencies. At the time that Hebe was

established the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals (CVCP) and the Standing Conference of Principals (Scop) hoped that these loans would be repaid with profit. The recession and increased competition nationally, however, meant that the careers fairs did not attract sufficient commercial interest and had to be subsidised by Hebe. The fairs, now run by the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service, continue to be supported by universities and college subscriptions at approximately the same level, as they are an important way of getting information about courses to potential students.

Hebe is now being wound up, but its accounts are published and are available to inspect. They were not included in CVCP's 1996/97 accounts as the winding up process meant that it was not possible to prepare them in time. DIANA WARWICK

Chief Executive, CVCP London WC1

Blame for heroin

Sir: Your report on the rapid escalation of heroin use among teenagers (13 July) is disturbing but not surprising, as this is what drug agency workers have been consistently reporting for the last few years.

Unfortunately, this trend is likely to continue given the Government's dogmatic refusal to accept that this problem is entirely of its own making. For it is Tony Blair, Jack Straw and Keith Hellawell, the drug "tsar", who are compounding the heroin problem by their refusal to separate heroin from the cannabis market.

Amsterdam once had a heroin problem so serious it forced the authorities to look at radical solutions. The two drug markets

have been separated by legalising the sale of cannabis. Result? The average age of heroin addicts in Holland is 35 and rising each year, with fewer teenagers using the drug. In Britain the average age of heroin addicts is 25 and likely to fall as many new smokers of the drug become hooked. KEVIN WILLIAMSON

Amsterdam

End of term

Sir: I once taught in an independent school in Birmingham which neatly solved the problem of the last three weeks of term. ("Where did the rest of the term go?", 8 July). The entire school moved up a year and began the next year's syllabus. Pupils changed classrooms and lockers, were issued with the following year's books, got to know their new teachers and made a start on the following year's work. Needless to say, their exam results were brilliant. ANNE SIMONS Cardiff

Sir: Joanna Williams's letter (13 July) takes me back thirty years to when I was a careers master in Kingston upon Thames. We too had the problem of the post-examination hiatus, which we tried to solve by a pre-sixth form "taster" course. I endeavoured to persuade the young gentlemen that persistence with schooling would be beneficial and enjoyable. I brought my campaign to halt when one of my students gave a judgement. He said, "You can offer me wine, women and song, but it's still bloody school, isn't it?" **ELLIS BERG** Selsey. West Sussex

IN BRIEF

Sir: Steven Norris (interview, 13 July) says "people ... still expect their Tesco to stock seven kinds of lettuce" hence the need for "lorries hurtling down their roads". Here in Sheffield Tesco has built a superstore which is matched on the other side of the main-line railway by a Sainsbury's superstore. Why can't they both bring their goods by train? Modern containers can be transferred in minutes from freight ADRIAN PADFIELD Sheffield

Sir: It appears that Piers Morgan (Letters, 15 July) does not quite understand about faxes: surely people send faxes rather than letters for the very reason that they do want others than the addressee to read the contents. BRIAN MOORE Exeter

Sir: Is there perhaps a new maxim: "I'll walk over burning coals before I'll miss-sell a life insurance policy"? PHILIP ISHERWOOD Leigh

Sir. Could the new paternity test by post (report, 14 July) be the answer to Roy Tucker's dreams? CHRIS MOORHOUSE Sheffield

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Don't waste the NHS bonus on political gimmicks

YES, IT'S extra money. Yes, it is needed. But no, it is not the answer to all the NHS's problems. When Frank Dobson stands up in the Commons this afternoon to give the details behind Gordon Brown's statement on Wednesday, he will deservedly have a smile on his face. The figure of an extra £21bn may well be an "outrageous fiddle" as Ann Widdecombe describes it (the Government have counted the increase from 1998-99 four times over). But even after allowing for inflation, it marks a 4.7 per cent increase in spending over the next three years, and the Government can justifiably claim to have more than met expectations.

Nothing, however, should be taken at face value in the NHS. For one thing, the Government's extra spending does not even come close to the 5.6 per cent annual increases that the Conservatives managed in the early 1990s. For all the good it did them politically, the last government could hold its head up high on its commitment to the NHS. Far from starving the service, it consistently ploughed money into it. And thereby hangs the problem. The NHS eats money. A financially ravenous mix of technological advances, demographic change, ever increasing demand and increasing expectations - let alone pay - means that the NHS will always struggle to meet the demands we place upon it. It is a basic law of economics that demand for any good provided free will always exceed supply.

Funding the service, of course, is to a large degree a matter of will. But there is a grave danger that Mr Dobson's extra money will be frittered away on a ludicrous piece of political grandstanding. When Labour was in opposition, attacking the Conservatives over waiting lists was an easy target. And how often they took aim! But rather than simply using the figures to make political capital, which would have been cheap but understandable, the party decided to make the reduction in waiting lists a key election pledge: vote Labour and see waiting lists fall by 100,000. Except, of course, that they have not. They have risen by 137,000.

Ah, but it was not an "early pledge", we are now told. It was due to be met only in the lifetime of this Parliament. Put this interesting interpretation of apparently clear language aside. Even to meet the pledge on its own terms, the Government will now have to secure a fall of 3,000 a week in the list. To do this, it has already allocated £385m, and this afternoon Mr Dobson will tell us how much more money is to be thrown at the prob-



lem. The Government has even appointed a "waiting list tsar", Peter Homa, chief executive of the Leicester Royal Infirmary.

A less thought-through, more superficial and wasteful commitment would be hard to find. Waiting lists are often a sign not of failure but success. Imagine that the same idea were applied to a supermarket. Dobson and Co opens its first shop in London. Within days, its floors are bursting with shoppers and its 10 check-outs are always full. So successful is it that Frank, the genial owner, decides to open another store. Again, it is a huge success and its 10 check-outs are always busy. The story continues with each new shop. Overall, many more people are being served at Dobson and Co. But there are also many more people queuing for its services because there are many more tills.

That is exactly what is happening in the NHS. It has been little noticed that, for all that waiting lists are constantly rising, in the first three months of this year the NHS treated more people than ever before. That is the real measure of the NHS's productivity. The extra money announced on Wednesday is welcome, and could make a real difference. But please, Mr Dobson, stop this stupid obsession with waiting lists.

A lingering whiff of cronevism

SO NOW we know. Geoffrey Robinson, the Paymaster General, is squeaky clean. That is a relief. According to the House of Commons Standards Committee, Mr Robinson is guilty of not meeting "all the requirements of registration", but his conduct does not meet the "threshold" required for action to be taken against him. And this, we are told, means that we can all breathe easily again in the knowledge that the Government is indeed "purer than pure", as the Prime Minister put it last week.

This will not do. What is most noticeable about the first 14 months of Labour government? A pious tone accompanied by a series of worrying events. Bernie Ecclestone's £1m, Mohammed Sarwar's alleged election bribes, last week's furore over croneyism and Mr Robinson's various embarrassments, have all undermined the hope the Government began with - of appearing, if not really being, different. When Mr Blair took to the airwaves yesterday and spoke up for Mr Robinson, and when he apologised last year for the Ecclestone affair, he so desperately wanted us to believe that he was different. Maybe he is. But it is becoming increasingly difficult to trust him, at least

Mr Robinson has now been cleared by his peers and Mr Blair will no doubt use the forthcoming reshuffle to give him a gentle push towards a less contentious role. But Mr Blair is still faced with a problem. It is easy for a government to gain a bad reputation, and almost impossible then to regain a good one. In today's climate he is right to talk of being "purer than pure". But words are cheap. By allowing the Robinson affair to fester, the Prime Minister showed a worrying lack of judgement. After the past fortnight he may have learned his lesson. If he has not, the next few years are likely to be traumatic for him and his

Schadenfreude?

THE GERMAN constitutional court has spoken, From now on, it is not Ketchup but Ketschup. Leave aside the sneers at so gloriously Germanic an idea as going to court over language. Perhaps there are some lessons we should learn. What about a prison sentence for saying "gobsmacked", a fine for confusing "disinterested" with "uninterested" and a community service order for following "these" with "ones"?

Why am I so nervous now Labour has delivered on its promises?

SHH! KEEP your voice down. William next few weeks, whether they be Hague is listening to Britain, and he open-eared in the snug bar of the Adcould do without a whole lot of Independent readers making their usual cacophonous racket. Besides, he knows only too well that listening is a bad sign in a politician, and only done in extremis. Politicians are in business to do things that they think are necessary, not to wander around the place listening.

Laster term

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The £250,000 listening campaign launched on Tuesday is, of course, what psychiatrists call a displacement activity, given that the Conservatives' sophisticated polling and their focus groups are telling them exactly what the electorate thinks. So unless the Tories have suddenly decided to take on the mantle of the Samaritans ("Depressed? Suicidal? So are we"), there can be only three possible objectives to their spending a year trolling round the country with their lugholes artificially distended.

The first is to buy time, during which they have an excuse for not coming up with any policies precisely because they are listening. The second (and this was Neil Kinnock's principal motive in his Labour Listens campaign of the mid-Eighties) is to confront recalcitrant party colleagues with the harsh realities of public perception. And the third is just to have something, anything, to do.

There is, by the way, nothing in it for the listence. Being hearkened to by, say, Peter Lilley, may have the edge over being talked to by Peter Lilley but is, if anything, even more futile.

But let me speculate about something that the peripatetic listeners

THERE IS considerable con-

cern in some quarters that if

the nation's slumping economy

is not put back on track, it could

spark another Asian currency

crisis, and perhaps even a

global business slump. It is

crucial, in any case, that a new

administration be formed as

soon as possible so that a pol-

itical vacuum can be avoided.

The Hashimoto Cabinet is

already a lame-duck Cabinet. If

Party (LDP) were to wait for

the terms of incumbent upper-

house members to expire, the

miral Benbow or piggy-backing the Tweedleshire Horticultural Association's Summer Fair. They will not hear anyone say, "the trouble with that there Gordon Brown is that he ain't prudent enough. One nasty downturn in the international economy, and all his fine plans for hospitals and schools and stuff will be down the Swanee. He should have been meaner."

Indeed, that's not what Tony Blair heard either when he faced the callers on yesterday's Nicky Campbell phonein show on Radio 5 Live. In the wake of Tuesday's Spending Review announcements, those callers deemed critical enough to be chosen from among those jamming the switchboard were all worried that there was insufficient dosh going to teachers, nurses and other deserving cases.

True, one had his question reframed for him so that he appeared to be worried about the chancellor's pre-election give-away, but in light of the fact that we are only 14 months into this government this criticism seemed a little far-fetched.

Nevertheless, the shadow Chancellor, Francis Maude (soon to be seen listening somewhere near youl attacked the government for "spending its way into a recession". His implication was that there should not be all this extra money for services sloshing around when there were still important taxes to cut



DAVID **AARONOVITCH**

This is a moment of opportunity but I wonder about all this money being squandered

miserly did Mr Maude seem that my daughters have become convinced that he is really called Frances Maude, and that he is Pollyanna's mean-spirited cousin.

For months I have been telling anyone who cared to listen (this was before Mr Hague's campaign: that that nice Tony Blair and his sidekick, the Reverend Brown, would put lots of money into the health and education systems, and that this - as well as being a good thing - would be the decisive issue at the next election. It is what Middle England really voted for. It is what Labour promised. And lo!

And lo. So why is it that I am suddenly feeling so nervous? I have been given the thing that I wanted, and yet I am wondering whether I quite de-

Dad all year for a a new expensive bike for Christmas. Yes, you know that things are toughish at the moment, but just think what possession of this coveted item will mean: savings on bus fares, lots of healthy exercise, social acceptance and (naturally) an enhanced willingness to help with the household chores and to complete homework. Christmas comes, and the bike is unwrapped, and - instantby - joy is mixed with apprehension. Was it wise to accede to your requests?

Was it prudent? I am not talking here about what would happen to the spending plans in the event of an economic downturn. Mr Blair assures us that he has cut himself some slack should growth fail to meet projections, and that he sees no reason why there should be a recession. I am not an economist so I am not sure which of the competing opin-

ions I should accept. In general, however, I am convinced that we do not need any further income tax reductions for main rate and high-income taxpayers, and that our future as a trading nation would be best served by providing our kids and our workers with the best education and training that we can manage. At the moment I take this also to be the feeling of the nation. Moments of convergence between myself and the nation happen rarely, and I celebrate them when they occur.

But this is a moment of opportunity: and I worry about it's being squandered. Just because you pump the money in doesn't mean that those who get it will use it wisely. No one among Camden council taxpayers voted to It's a bit like nagging your Mum and spend a million guid of this year's bud-

get on financing a ridiculous spat, be-fore an industrial tribunal, between the council's chief executive and his deputy - a battle of egos that should have cost the price of two cappuccinos to sort out. But that is where the money went and, one day soon, I hope to be able to tell you the full story.

And no one decided that £100 million of public funds would be usefully expended on Scotland Yard's sick bili. Yet the Commons Public Accounts Committee discovered that the average Met copper took three weeks sick leave a year, and that the fight against crime is in danger of being set back by this absenteeism

Getting money is one thing: using it well is another. Will all the money earmarked for schools be banded over by councils? And if it is, is the government sure that the best way for it to be spent in each and every school is on reducing class sizes? Might there not be a case, in schools facing particular staff recruitment and retention problems, for diverting the cash towards taking on better teachers and allowing a class or two to be 32 or 33 rather than 30?

Yes, I know what the Government pledged. It pledged the same thing over NHS waiting lists, but could that □1 billion be more effectively spent improving outcomes for cancer patients to, say, American levels, rather than targeting waiting lists?

I say pledge, schmedge. The important thing is better education, better health. Lets keep re-evaluating what that means, and let us use this once-in-an-epoch opportunity to achieve it. Hey! Is anyone listening? No, William, sorry. I didn't mean you.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"He is, and remains. my closest personal and political friend in politics, and always will be." Tony Blair, Prime Minister, commenting on claims of a rift with Gordon Brown

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"Madness need not be all breakdown. It may also be breakthrough." RD Laing. Scottish psychiatrist

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This sat uneasily with David Willetts' assertion that the Labour money was mere bagatelle compared with what the Tories had thrown at the edfrom Central Office will not hear in the ucation service in recent times. So

able to cope with any new banking crisis that may occur, either at home or abroad, in the two weeks that it has left. No one can tell, of course,

when the next crisis will occur. A fundamental aspect of crisis management, however, is always to be prepared for emergencies.

For this reason, a new ad-neglect of larger forces at work ministration must be set up immediately." Yomiuri Shimbun, Japan the ruling Liberal Democrat

"JAPANESE CULTURE places a high premium on individual Cabinet would probably be un-

MONITOR ALL THE NEWS OF THE WORLD

The continuing political and economic crises in Japan

in the world. The decision by

Ryutaro Hashimoto to take the

blame for the electoral set-

back suffered by Japan's ruling

LDP in Sunday's upper house

election and so to resign as



point. Mr Hashimoto could have moved earlier in his two years as Prime Minister to put the Japanese economy - and the engine of much of Asia's prosperity - back on track. cover it will drag much of Asia When he did move, it could have been more decisively.

reform, eliminate trade barriers or stimulate domestic demand can be like trying to make water flow uphill. That is one reason why Japan is about to have its tenth prime minister in nine years." Sydney Morning Herald

"IN ORDINARY times, the fall of vet another Japanese prime minister would not be such big news. But these are not ord-reforms and a reflationary inary times. If Japan falls to redown the tube and also rattle economies as far afield as Rus-

sia, Chile and Brazil. Already, Trying to pursue structural the low value of the yen and the corresponding decline in consumer spending is hurting exporters around the globe. Despite active intervention, the yen remains weak and listless. Thus, the world anxiously waits to see what concrete steps Mr Hashimoto's successor will take. The options, of course, are limited and will have to include sweeping bank

> Failure will cost Japan and the world dearly." The Times of India

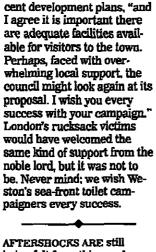
PANDORA

MICHAEL OWEN'S achievements during the World Cup are to be honoured in his North Wales home town. The village council in Hawarden has decided to present the 18year-old footballer with an inscribed rose bowl. One idea was to make the presentation on the same day as the celebration of the 100th anniversary of the village's last great star on the world stage: Gladstone. But this idea was scotched, says Noel Barnes, a local council member, because "Michael wouldn't thank us for making a fuss". How very un-Brazilian of the young man who, for Pandora's money, is now the world's most exciting striker. Ronaldo he's not, thank God.

The Financial Times has been enjoying a wonderful string of surprisingly well informed Treasury-related scoops in recent months. At first glance. this winning streak is a bit surprising, as Gordon Brown is said to disdain the FT's economics editor, Robert Choate. However, on second glance. most of these stories come under the byline of Robert Peston, the FT's political editor. Peston, of course, is still friendly with his former FT colleague Ed Balls, the socalled "deputy Chancellor" According to Derek Draper in Tuesday's Telegraph, Balls "actively courts the press" and "does not make mistakes". Neither, it seems, does Peston these days.

AFTER MONTHS of controversy and film industry rejection, Adrian Lynne's glossy version of *Lolita* has finally found a US theatrical distributor: the Samuel Goldwyn Company. However, it will first reach a US audience on 2 August via the cable network Showtime. Meanwhile, in the UK, the film, which opened at the start of May, has proved a box office dud. It is currently on view in just 15 cinemas nationwide. and has grossed only £400,000. One thing is certain; its producers cannot blame the film's star, Jeremy Irons (right), for its poor showing. Not only did he turn in a brilliant performance as Humbert Humbert; he worked his heart out publicising the film before its release.

FOLLOWING HIS wishy-washy policy statement last week to the Anti-Rucksacks on the Tube Campaign, Lord Archer demonstrates that he will in fact take a strong stand on those issues he deems worthy. "I was sorry to hear of the threat of closure of sea front toilets in Weston," he has written to a group



North Somerset Council's re-

being felt from this year's Spectator summer party. The editor, Frank Johnson. has told the publisher, Kimberly Fortier, and the deputy editor, Petronella Wyatt, that this year's event lacked enough pretty girls. "He accused Petronella and me of crossing their names off the invitation list," Fortier told Pandora. "I told him the problem wasn't a shortage of pretty girls. The problem was too many ugly men. It only takes one ugly man to eclipse 10 pretty girls at a party."

UNWITTINGLY, THE Anti-

Rucksack Campaign has a result of publishing Trevor Phillips's statement: "A lot of people, particularly Australians, aren't used to the culture of courtesy." Letters and faxes have been arriving since last Friday from the sons and daughters of Oz. They are "astonished" and "outraged" by Phillips's "snide, racist" comment and ask whether Phillips, who is black, would have uttered such a sentence with "Africans" or "Asians" in place of Australians. Phillips responds to his critics with the kind of sang-froid London surely wants in a mayor "Australian visitors are part of what makes London what it is, and we love them for their robustness and their sense of hu-

mour," he

told Pandora.

to have uncov-

But we seem



Banish these publishing ghettoes

LOOKING FOR Superman? He may be lurking in your local bookshop. Sebastian Junger's The Perfect Storm has been published in the UK in a blaze of publicity penned by journos desperate to pick up tips on how to stare manfully into a camera lens, discuss tree surgery alongside hard news items and run a fourminute mile, for it seems that the bionic Mr Junger is capable of all these things and more.

His book - the story of a storm that killed six men - is being touted as a perfect nugget of "humane" reportage. He is the perfect alpha male: a jock in the woodland, an intellectual in his study and a performance-level athlete on the track. He writes about how tough it is to be a man. What a guy!

The literary world loves to create heroes. All those gents trying to write the Great American Novel. All the dudes out on the front line. All those put-upon English men like Nick Hornby, writing in their shifty, snivelling way about the pressures of modern life. The old Britpack of Julian Barnes, Martin Amis and Ian McEwan - everyone loves a lad with a fresh store of youthful anger and



BIDISHA

Women writers are squeezed into narrow roles by the literary cult of the heroic male

an ever-ready ballpoint pen. In print culture (as in every other field), males assemble for themselves a range of heroic men clearly differentiated from one another: Will Self, snarling prose stylist with an ear for alliteration and a noseful of narcotics; Alex Garland and his adventures in Thailand: Alan Warner, heir to Irvine Welsh's crown. They are like the knights of the Round Table, except that the table is loaded with empty bottles, and situated inside the Groucho Club.

Women writers are so much more indistinct. The newest authors have no public profile, unlike their male contemporaries, and no clout within "social" media circles. There is no such thing as a "cult author" who is female. They are given less space on the page, almost no features coverage and little in the way of serious hype. They are not accepted into the literary scene unless they are tremendously beautiful, tremendously wise and matronly (all the better to serve critics' Oedipus complexes) - or shagging

a journalist Evenings out with the guys from the publishing house are the sole preserve of up-for-it male writers keen to press the flesh and build up a young boys' network that may prove useful in years to come.

People don't quite know what to do with female writers, so they're given to lowly female critics to deal with. When my first novel came out it was reviewed under "women's fiction" or, even worse, "black fiction". When women write, the world prefers the oldest values and gender distinctions to remain intact in their texts. Women are given literary power only if their work conforms to standards (set by men and Caucasians) which maintain their in-

feriority in the long term. The mega-hit Bridget Jones's Diary, for instance, is desperately conservative, despite its humorous presentation: it has a heroine without dignity or intelligence whose emotions are dictated by the actions of two men, both of whom are socially, physically, intellectually and professionally superior to her. The public like this book because it is deeply conformist (and therefore deeply sexist! in its politics.

If a writer is non-Caucasian then she has a double burden; she must also incorporate a whiff of racial antagonism, a soupcon of jungle lore. Arundhati Roy's The God of Small Things is a success in the West because it tells people precisely what they like to hear about India. Stories of deep caste differences, of squalid cities and lush, "tropical" vegetation, picturesque poverty and secret love forbidden by the constraints of a Draconian society all please a nation that believes the excolonies simply fell apart when the Empire ceased to exist.

Of course, men automatically gender" their work. It does not place them in a ghetto, as is the case for female writers; instead it places them in the arena of social significance precisely because the cult of masculinity is the rule, not

the exception. Maleness is the general, the universal, the standard. The story of man is the story of humankind. Hanif Kureishi's Intimacy, to pick the most recent example, is not the unstylish bleat of a fat-faced scribbler who looks as if he'd try to flog you a fake Rolex. It is (we are asked to believe) the brave and confrontational cry of the masculine soul weighing its own "natural" desire for freedom against the claustrophobia of family life.

The only people who objected to this work were female critics. But, as most editors are men, as are most reviewers, and nearly all the hacks who interviewed Kureishi for all those prominent features, they seemed to get together, crank up the hype machine and propel the book

Groping towards the right size of public sector

WE ARE in the middle of a public sector "can do" week - a string of announcements of how the Government intends to provide better public sector services, not just in its two priority areas of health and education, but in other areas too.

This approach has received a warm welcome for a number of reasons. For some it is a matter of ideology, but for most of us it is more than that. Everyone would like better public services. Most people feel a certain twinge of regret that the old virtues of public service seem to have been swept aside in the quest for market solutions and profit. And many people feel there must be some case for at least giving the public sector the opportunity to fight back.

The immediate question is whether this counter-attack will indeed move the frontiers between the state and the private sector not just here but, by example, elserience is important, for just as it led the rise of state provision of public services, so it has also led the retreat. Behind that question are even for the public sector in a developed country? Will there be a single global best practice in the provision of health care and education. as there is, say, in manufacturing cars, and if so, what will become the dominant model?

The frontier question is a fascinating one because we seem to be at a global turning point. If you take state involvement in industry as a measure, there is no question that the state has been routed. Nationalised industries, as a form of ownership of commercial activities, have been abandoned everywhere. The idea that to nationalise an industry was a good form of ownership proved to be a brief experiment which lasted less than half a century. Privati-



HAMISH MCRAE

Most people feel regret that the old virtues of public service have been swept aside

sation, Britain's most significant intellectual export for a generation, has swept the world.

If however you take general gov-GDP as the measure of the size of the state, the argument that the state is being pushed back is much less clear-cut. The peak in the UK was cent of GDP Now, a generation later, overall peak in the developed world was reached only in 1993 at 41 per cent, and that peak hides enormous variations. In the US, government spending is 32 per cent of GDP; in Sweden 60 per cent. The big picture is that the ratio of public spending to GDP in the developed world rose steadily until the early 1980s, then levelled off, and may, since the early 1990s, be falling. But it is not yet clear that it is actually falling, and this big picture conceals the fact that countries with very similar standards of living chose to have public sectors of very different size

Will our new burst of faith in the public sector here have resonance

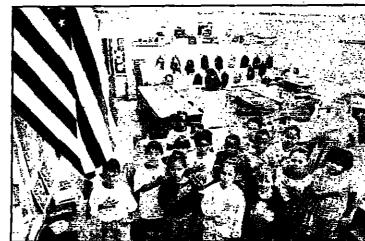
elsewhere? That depends on whether it works, whether we do indeed get better services or whether the money disappears into some black hole. But there is a structural issue which will restrict our

Both our health and education systems are unusually centralised by world standards which means that it is possible for central government to influence the industries to a much greater extent than would be possible elsewhere. On the other hand, these are models we have failed to export. No other country has built anything as centralised as the NHS; few other countries have as centralised management of schools or universities.

As a result, while the outcome of Labour's plans for both health and education will be scrutinised in ministries and think-tanks all around the world, it would be naive of us to think that the general policy of what we do where. We may be influential in detail: Gordon Brown's emphasis on linking funding to modernisation may well be imitated. But I do not see bigger ones. Is there a "right" size right back in 1976, at close to 48 per us exporting any big ideas about either the boundaries between state we are back to 40 per cent. But the and private sector, or the management of a nation's healthcare. Our systems and those of other countries are simply too different.

Are there then any universal rules for running services well - or, to put the point more worryingly, might our methods be well short of world best practice?

The trouble here is that there is no direct competition between countries in public services. If British universities were bad by world standards there would be no easy way the Japanese could come in and take them over. Short of going to America, there is no easy way we can buy US health services. There is a tiny trade at the top of the market



The American way of education

But mostly there are no such market signals of success or failure. We saw that our motor industry was badly-run by world standards because its market and its companies were taken over. There is no real parallel in health care or education, for these service industries still operate in national compartments, insulated from foreign competition.

If you cannot rely on market signals, you have to find some other method of measuring your performance. This is not going to be easy, but it can be done.

You start by comparing one bit under you control with another similar bit: the performance of one school against another; one hospital against another; one police force against another. You look at your schools against whatever seem to be the best in the world, the Swedish, the Swiss, the American or whatever. You do the same for hospitals, po-

and, incidentally, some evidence lice and other services. Once you that at that end of the scale we have have identified the things that seem very good health and education ser- to work you apply them - just as lean vices: many foreigners come here for manufacturing was applied through arrogance that "our" way of doing things is better than that of other countries. If it is, then great; if not,

I do not know whether there is a single best practice in running a hospital, a university, a police force or whatever I suspect not: rather there are several different ways all of which can be made to work pretty well. But there are clearly some ways which are dreadful and we have our share here. It is intolerable that we should put up with worse service from the public sector than we do from the private.

So maybe this not just a "can do" week for the public sector but more importantly a "must do" week - the start of a long "must do" period when the big public sector industries will themselves determine, by their performance, whether they can turn the tide that has been running against them.

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Creating opportunities for the young

which is that young people need four things: they need responsibility. permitting circumstances. respect, and recognition. So if I were in a Foyer, I would be asking myself whether young people have a sense of they have opportunities for leadership because everybody likes responsibility - it's the

responsibility and whether And people need respect and recognition, and that's work bit that gets you down but what many people are the leading is fun, and it's fun desperately searching for. When I said I wanted to call for everyone The second thing, it seems this talk "Mind the gap". I was conscious of the proportion of to me, and what people need a youngster's waking life that the ages of transition, are is spent at school.

at all ages, but particularly at "permitting circumstances", and that means being given the freedom and room to experiment. You need new experiences. Most people know that because new experiences broaden the balance of giving people mind, they excite the imagination. One of the things we've done in Birmingham to try to transform the confidence of young people is to create guarantees at the primary and secondary school level which will guarantee the youngsters the opportunity to take part in

is very old hat, I think, ence. I don't think anybody ever comes back from a good residential experience at any age without every participant having opened up different possibilities for themselves as learners and as people, and the people involved, as you rightly said, come back seeing people in a different way, so it's a vivid. traumatic learning experience.

But how about the youngster who goes to a school that lays on lots of out of school opportunities? And how about the young per_on who lives in a secure home and gets the responsibility, permitting school? circumstances, respect and recognition" The likelihood is that this particular type of home is looking after, in one way or another, about 70 per cent of the time that the young-

ster has. And that equals security



PODIUM TIM BRIGHOUSE

From a speech by Birmingham's Chief Education Officer to the Foyer Federation

and an odds-on chance of succeeding in life. How about young people, however, who are part of that 10 per cent at secondary level who seem persistently to be bunking off

How about those young people who live in circumstances, as in parts of Birmingham, that are severely overcrowded, who haven't got any opportunities to do homework, even if they're inclined to do it?

What of those who, per-

haps, are in homes that some of us have seen, but would not

Now it's those young people

that it seems to me we should be worried about. I think we should take some courage and energy from the fact that the number of youngsters in those circumstances are fewer, but the circumstances they are in seem worse, because more and more people are succeeding in the education That was not the case when

I was at school. The few suc-I think that the issue of minding this gap is a really big one. If you really wanted to transform life's chances, then personally, I feel, let's try to get organised with health visitors and with housing agencies around transforming the experiences of youngsters in

their first three years of life. Anybody who sees a youngster's development in that period would know that people from my neck of the woods who keep talking about nursery schools and classes, are pathetically missing the target by

a long way. Birth to three years of age

is the territory that we really should be working on. And moving on from childhood to adolescence must also be recognised as a danger as

Now some of us are engaged in trying to do something about that. Where I work, two things are worth mentioning - one is a birth to five service that does exactly what I've just described. We're into the business of screening youngsters, asking health visitors to see whether at 9, 10, 11, 12 months, youngsters are, or ceeded, the many did not. So are not, developing their language receptively, expressively, or behaviourally.

We need to have some notion of whether a place like Birmingham, where more than twice the average number of pupils leave with no qualifications, has a generation at risk. We have about 10 per cent of children who aren't

attending school regularly. I think those are the most at risk: a generation of people in our cities and I would love to see more opportunity, not for remedial programmes.

but opportunities for them to unlock their

حكذا من الاحل

Shettoes The truth about race and crime



STEPHEN **POLLARD**

Yes, there is a statistical link between crime and ethnic origin - black people are the victims

YOU ARE walking home late at night. The road is deserted. As you look ahead you notice two young men. You get a bit nearer and see that they are black. Be honest, does the adrenaline not pump that little bit quicker with fear?

What do you do – carry on, or cross the road? Better safe than sorry. No, you are not racist. Some of your best friends are black. You just have to be careful. It is the evidence, isn't it? Everyone knows that the figures show that young black men are so much more likely to mug you than anyone else. You are just being rational. Until you know them and can be sure that you are safe, they are best avoided. Just cross the

Every day brings more stories of apparently random acts of violence, from street muggings and rapes to murders. And more often than not when the face of the suspect is drawn, he is black. With headlines such as "Black crime - the alarming figures" and "Black crime shock" (from the Daily Telegraph and Sun), it is little wonder that many of us live in fear of the black

The headlines are true, in a sense. There is a black crime shock. According to the police's own figures, for every attack on a white person, there are 36 on Afro-Caribbeans and 50 on Asians. Those are the "alarming figures" of black crime. Indeed, blacks are more likely to be victims of both household and personal crimes - 13 per cent of blacks have been burgled, twice the figure for whites.

This week the Stephen Lawrence inquiry draws to a close. Some of the evidence from the police's own lips has been astonishing. As we still don't know for certain what happened, only one thing is sure: Stephen was one of many

black victims of violence. The case is not, of course, typi cal. Part of the fascination is that the five thugs who helped the inquiry with its enquiries appear literally to have got away with murder. But more than that, the story of Stephen Lawrence's last night out in Eltham draws together some of the threads that we would rather were left undone. We refuse to believe that the police could be so callous as to treat



Doreen Lawrence lays a wreath on a memorial to her son Stephen, one of many black victims of racial violence

a black victim of violence any worse than a white victim. We certainly deny the idea that they might not even care about black victims.

We like to believe that we are all equal before the law. And we don't like to think about white-on-black violence. Because mainstream politics is more or less free of race and institutionalised racism is rare, we think of Britain as a relatively tranquil society.

For most of us it is. But the Stephen Lawrence case is just a more extreme example of the real face of Britain that many blacks have to confront.

Sure enough, a Home Office report published in April which examined for the first time how blacks and Asians feel about crime shows that many are "imprisoned" by a fear of violence.

has been surprise, since most of us still tend to believe the myth of the black criminal rather than the reality of the black victim. Some so-called experts and rab-

The response to these findings

ble rousing politicians have dismissed the report. But its findings are pretty unsurprising given the crime statistics.

White fear of a black crime threat is based on apprehension of

what might be. For blacks, the crime figures show that fear is based on what is.

It should come as no surprise, then, that according to the Home Office - hardly the voice of extremist black politics - almost 30 per cent of blacks, 27 per cent of Indians and 22 per cent of Pakistanis and Bangladeshis avoid taking part in many traditional British activities. such as going to football matches, spending an evening in the pub or dancing in nightclubs.

As the report puts it: "They perceive themselves to be at greater risk of crime than whites, worry more about falling victim to a crime and feel less safe on the streets or within their own homes at night.

"To a large extent this is a reflection of their higher risk of victimisation and harassment.

The statistics show that if any group has reason to be afraid of crime it is not whites but blacks. The crime figures if anything understate the situation, since many blacks have little confidence in the police and so fail to report some crimes which they suffer.

After the revelations at the Stephen Lawrence inquiry of what one might charitably describe as police indifference, it is easy to see why. According to the official figures there are 130,000 incidents of racial harassment or abuse every year one every four minutes.

That is bad enough. But the number that are not reported can only be guessed at. So much for a tranquil society. This whole area has an Alice in

Wonderland feel to it. The sobering effect of reality has yet to hit even some of those who deal every day in the real world, such as the police themselves. None of this means, of course,

that blacks are less likely to be criminals, just that they are more likely to be victims. In fact their violent crime rate is roughly the same as that of whites. Among those blacks who are criminals, property offences are the most common, with 40 per cent of young male blacks having offended - the same statistic as for young whites ralthough the figure is only 12 per cent for Bangladeshis). Twenty five per cent have committed a violent crime. compared with 20 per cent of Pakistanis and whites (and 10 per cent

In the Seventies and Eighties, the so-called "sus" laws were particularly unpopular among the black community. The police were effec-

of Bangladeshis).

tively given carte blanche to stop anyone they chose, and more often than not they chose to stop young black men. When the sus laws were abolished there was a widespread feeling that relations with the police would improve. Some chance.

Despite the police's own figures and the less alarming - although still unpleasant - truth they reveal about black criminals, the ethnic minorities are still five times more likely to be stopped and searched by the police than whites: more than a quarter of all those stopped in the last year for which we have figures were from the ethnic minorities, who comprise only six per cent of

the population. Much of this is because the police have so few non-white officers. For all that they claim to have made strenuous efforts to improve the proportion of black officers, they still number no more than 3 per cent of the Metropolitan Police. Of this tiny number, 91 per cent are constables - the lowest rank. This compares with the 76 per cent of white officers who are stuck at constable level. Not one of the Met's 180 superintendents - the rank in charge of police stations is non-white. This is usually defended by the argument that the police force is, and should be, racially blind. It certainly should be. The

evidence, however, suggests that it

just as certainly isn't. Law and order is an area bedevilled in equal parts by myth and supposition. Easy generalisations, sloppy thinking and inadequate analysis typify most reports. The image of the little old lady, imprisoned in her high-rise council flat by marauding black druggies is, of course, sometimes true. But it is overstated because it is a lot easier to trot out than the more complicated and more likely picture of a black family afraid to go out because of young white and black hooligans.

No victim of crime, whether black or white, can be blamed for extrapolating a more general lesson from their own experience, and when we read of other people's horror stories it is easy to do the same. We have certainly become a more violent society. And the crime rate among the black community is disgracefully high.

But then so it is among the white population. If tough on crime is ever to be more than a very catchy slogan, we need as a first step to start recognising who are the real victims

RIGHT OF REPLY

ADAM SEARLE

A consultant plastic surgeon defends the use of silicone-gel breast implants

MOST PATIENTS who go to consultant plastic surgeons in this country are normal people with a perceived or a real abnormality. They may require treatment because of cancer or an inherited deformity. Plastic surgeons do not sell implants. Implants, such as the scalpel or suture, are tools which are used surgically to modify form or shape.

Around a third of patients who have implantations of silicone are undergoing reconstruction in situations of gross asymmetry with failure of one breast to develop, or loss of breast tissue at the time of cancer treatment. And patients who request augmentation rarely ask for "large breastedness". Most augmentation is a means of addressing the psychological wounds which empty or sagging breasts inflict on women's self-esteem. They do not seek the ridiculous; they just want to be proportional and to feel normal. They want to forget about their breasts. So what is the answer?

At presentation, I look my patients in the eye and say, "you realise my job is to put you off". I do not think that the implants are dangerous, but I have to test the depth of need for cosmetic adjustment. It is not like getting your hair done. It requires a general anaesthetic. Patients are told at first presentation that much talking needs to be done before progressing to an operatingroom. I never allow patients to make decisions about their surgery on our first encounter, but they are sent away with information to think over in their own mind, and to talk to friends and relatives about. Patients should not be tempted by quick fixes. Care must be taken with techniques, and post-operative care must continue for many months.

There is a shortage of good quality scientific data about breast implantation. Biomaterials have moved a long way since the Sixties. The silicone debate is hampered by its history. The future must lie in proper standards of care with analysis of the evidence and outcomes. To sink the silicone debate in a moratorium, sensationalism or the law courts will only bury the truth

What happened to Adolf?

THURSDAY POEM

DARK MOON

BY SARAH CORBETT

This poem comes from Sarah Corbett's first collection.

'The Red Wardrobe', just published at £6.95 by

Seren Books, 2 Wyndham Street. Bridgend CF31 1EF

WE SEE Hitler through a glass, darkly. If his political career sets up a latter-day mirror for princes, its reflections are multiply puzzling. At one point in his sometimes engrossing book, Ron Rosenbaum describes the Ashmolean Museum's façade as "soot-begrimed" and "gargoyle-encrusted". The adjectives might also apply to his subject. Even Hitler's reception is prone to local variation. Men get named "Hitler" in Nepal, where the great dictator is celebrated much as Victorian liberals feted Garibaldi.

Rosenbaum's subtitle is "the search for the origins of [Hitler's] evil". It's far from obvious, though, what this search could be. In the Protagoras, Plato argues that nobody knowingly chooses the bad, but mistakes it for the good. Hitler's "evil" presumably signifies his responsibility for the human cost of his years in power. But to describe him as responsible is aiready to say that he originated those bad effects. If something else originated them (the Versailles Treaty, German anti-semitism, or Adolf's childhood traumas), then it's no longer Hitler's evil that we're talking about. The question disappears, or answers itself.

Still many find the question too nagging to ignore. As Nietzsche said, if we know the why of life, we can put up with almost any how. Rosenbaum is also prey to this pang.

Often, in Hitler biographies, the evidential trail gives out: for example, with the murky death of his half-niece Geli Raubal. One rumour claims that Hitler had made incriminating pornographic drawings of Geli, consigned to a lost safedeposit box. Rosenbaum notes the trope of the "lost box" in Hitler stories the reliquary, but also repository of our faith that enigmas are soluble. This gave poor old Lord Dacre the runaround over the Hitler "Diaries". If we can't explain Hitler, at least we might explain why we

The need to explain is also prompt-



THURSDAY BOOK

EXPLAINING HITLER: THE SEARCH FOR THE ORIGINS OF HIS EVIL BY RON ROSENBAUM, MACMILLAN, £25

ed by fear that the trail may end where it began: disturbingly close to home. There's the English branch of clan Schicklgruber: William and Bridget Hitler, burghers of Liverpool, son and wife of Adolf's bigamous half-brother Alois. Then there's Hitler's softer side - meat-dodging, green, kind to dogs and children. The jacket photos play up the Mr Nasty/Mr Nice duality, with the adult Adolf in Nuremberg-rant mode next to a cuddly infant Führer in romper suit and bootees.

In sifting these apparitions, we're caught between Macbeth's "there's no art to find the mind's construction in the face" and Wittgenstein's view that the best picture of the human soul is the with absurdity. A prime instance is Kimberley Cornish's recent wacko book see the man - and indeed Nazi ideolo-

This is the dark me -

twisted body of hawthorn.

the latent witching of that tree.

its black muscle harming itself

but growing old, and ugly face

proud to be ugly.

a sneer at beautiful things.

The Jew of Linz, which argues that the 'source" of Hitler's anti-semitism was playtime rivalry with his classmate - the same Ludwig Wittgenstein.

Rumours also persist that, in the tackle department. Hitler returned less than a hundred annas to the rupee. These include his reputedly sub-zero sperm-count, and what his early biographer Alan Bullock calls the "one-ball husiness" - not to mention the fabled truncation of young Adolf's manhood by an incensed billy-goat.

Rosenbaum gives this cornucopia of Hitleriana a wry berth. He parades Bullock, Dacre, Claude Lanzmann, George Steiner, Lucy Dawidowicz, Daniel Goldhagen and others, purveying Hitler as human face. One-shot explanations flirt mountebank, genocidal maniac or Bismarckian power-broker. It's tempting to

Prepare yourself,

I may bud and burst -

a veiled hag, a trick of spring

that watches inwards, turns

and turns a hallowed magic

from my harsh skin.

my spiked and flowering hands.

Goebbels, blond like Hitler, and with a name like Rosenberg's, Indeed, the chief suspect for Hitler's demon is "the Jew within": the idea that his paternal grandfather was no cold-blooded Aryan. but a bourgeois Hebrew. Oddly enough, given the book's aims.

gy – as the product of negative projection. As the joke went, the ideal Nazi had

to be slim like Goering, able-bodied like

Rosenbaum disclaims any interest in psychology. Despite obsessive scrutiny of his interviewees' motives, he spares himself similar analysis. He confesses to knowing no German or French, and virtually ignores criticisms of "intentionalist" explanations of the Holocaust - unsurprisingly, since if those criticisms succeed, his book loses its point.

At times he dallies with daftness. A case in point is his "esoteric" reading of the Protocols of the Elders of Zion, a forgery designed to blacken world Jewry, based on an 1860s satire of Napoleon III. Rosenbaum thinks this Machiavellian spoof may have suggested to Hitler his own political modus operandi. He is drawn by similar patterns of "explanation" elsewhere, where rumour and reality swap places. Gossip about Reinhard Heydrich's Jewishness is traced not to the fact that Heydrich's step-grandfather was named Suss, but that Reinhard's father Bruno was given to doing cod-viddisher turns at parties.

Finally, the book meets evil with banality. Hitler hasn't been explained. Rosenbaum says, but that doesn't make him inexplicable. His faith may be misplaced.

A prominent school of social explanation relies on the self-understanding of human actors; but this trail runs cold if the actors themselves aim to act pointlessly. Primo Levi recalled that an SS guard at Auschwitz, asked to explain a petty act of brutality replied: "Here there's no why

GLEN NEWEY

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Miroslav Holub

A POET should be all things to all men. One of those who lived up to that difficult standard was Miroslav Holub.

His frank, open-hearted, witty poems were enjoyed by all kinds of people, but by Eastern Europeans in particular. They have that primitive, peasant touch of earthy humour and wisdom that is all too lacking in our British poetic tradition, and a range of subjects and moods that display a tremendous versatility of thought and language - a breadth of poetic experience and expertise that is considered frivolous in our contemporary academic poetic circles.

But then, Holub was brought up in the European tradition, with German as a second language, like Franz Kafka. The first poets he read at school were the Latins and the Greeks, then the Germans and the French, and later on the Poles. Among the French were all the surrealists and the playful inventions of Jacques Prévert and Raymond Queneau – a whole world of fantastic thinking that in Britain went out of fashion with Alice in Wonderland. But he also admired more serious writers, like the pacifist Romain Rolland: if Holub had any kind of political stance, it was an anarchic pacifism. His view of life was universal, with a positive relish for the absurd in our daily lives.

He graduated from high school in the sombre year of 1942, and at once was conscripted to work as a labourer at Pilsen railway station. (His father worked for the Czech railways as a lawyer: his mother was a teacher of French and German). It was not until the war was over that he was allowed to continue with his studies at the Charles University in Prague, where he made a special study of immunology at the Micro-biological Institute of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences. He earned his MD in 1953.

He began contacts with the world outside his homeland as a researcher at the Public Health Research Institute in New York (1965-67) and at the Max Planck Institute of Immunology in Freiburg (1968-69).

He then held important posts at the Central Committee of Czech Scientific Workers (1969-71) and at the Institution for Clinical and Experimental Medicine from 1972, where he was to become the Head of the Department of Immunology in 1990. These posts led to the writing of scientific papers and eventually to several serious studies with titles like Experimental Morphology of Antibody Formation (1958), The Lym-(1967) and The Immunology of Nude certain personal comic undertow.

Holub had earned his PhD in 1958, the year in which he produced his first volume of poetry, Day Duty. He did much to popularise science when he became editor of the scientific magazine Vesmir in the early Fifties.

Like his countryman Bohumil Hrabal, another capricious and idiosyncratic satirist, he remained detached from politics after the



Holub's plain universality of poetic vision derives from a scientist's microscopic perception of things

Moira Conway

Communist take-over in 1948, but became a member of the subtle disruptive literary group "Poetry of Everyday" which brought him in touch with a wide range of Czech intellectuals. From 1970 to 1980 the Czech government under Gustav Husák treated Holub as a "non-person" for signing a street petition, and his books could only be found in forign translations, the excuse being that there was a paper shortage.

In Daniel Weissbort's The Poetry of Survival: post-war poets of Central and Eastern Europe (1991), definitely the best introduction in English to this complicated subject, the editor quotes from a long letter by Holub in which the poet-scientist describes how he became a poet. He tells us he had "an almost religious admiration for the French Surrealists", but at first believed poetry was something too transcendental for him to achieve. He accepted that he could only be an imitator of poets like Jaroslav Seifert (who translated Apollinaire into Czech) and the Polish poet and essayist Zbigniew Herbert, his close contemporary. (He phocyte and the Immune Response learned Polish in order to be able to read him in the original, and to col-Mice (1989) - titles that possess a laborate on the first edition of the with Weissbort: "My coming into po-

> Other prominent influences were near-contemporary German poets like Gunter Kunert and Hans Magnus Enzenberger, and the great Yugoslav Vasko Popa. He also liked the San Francisco poets of the Beat Generation, and the free-wheeling poetry of Frank O'Hara, whose work is the closest I can imagine in English to Holub's later style.

Another well-known American poet he discovered was also a doctor, William Carlos Williams, whose sprightly imagist verses were as free and clear as his own. Holub begins one of his poems, "Wings", with a quote from Williams: There is

> microscopic this is reassuring.

Holub plays around with this quotation in a string of delightful variations, one of which runs:

But above all we have the ability to sort peas, to cup water in our hands, to seek the right screw under the sofa for hours

Seeking the right screw for the right linguistic nut might be said to be the basic mechanics of Miroslav goes on in the interview

poet's works in Czech translation). etry was to find out if it was poetry, if what I was doing was poetry at all! I didn't find any correspondences, I just discovered that I might be another kind." Such was the modesty of a fine poet in the making. The American influence was ever stronger, while the British seemed to him too insular, too domesticated: The more I learn about American poetry, which I have always admired

because of its consistency and scholarly evolution, the more I feel, my God, they are so good and yet they are missing something, something from my household, something more concrete, beyond the personal. We felt [our poetry] to be a counter-cultural movement, as a protest against the generalising, solern official poetry. But in more generalising. solemn, official poetry. But in more gen-eral terms there was a feeling that whatever you are doing represents the feeling of the guys in the street. All

Hence the plain universality of Miroslav Holub's poetic vision: a scientist's microscopic perception of things at street level is raised to unexpected heights of revelation.

It was not poetry in the traditional Czech sense at all, and this was what gives it such a special attraction. The emotion was only suggested, however powerful it might be, and ideals were translated into symbols and images of great originality and force in poems like "Brief Thoughts on Cats Growing in Trees" and "Brief Thoughts on Cracks". But he was able to utter profoundly lonely cries, muted and disturbingly offhand, like the poem about Kafka's grave And this master of all kinds of in the Jewish cemetery of Prague-

lurking under the map a few forlorn stones like scattered words Loneliness so close it has to be made of stone . . .

Then the sombre, reflective note turns into grim humour when the guardian of the graves answers questions (presumably about the Miroslav Holub, poet, immunologist location of Kafka's memorial stone, on which he is referred to as "Dr know. / I'm not from Prague." This

throwaway tone has a typically surreal sound, something like the Prevert poems and lyrics he so much admired in his youth.

It was not until 1982 that Holub was again allowed to publish his work in Czech. He was a very prolific author, and produced a book of poetry about once a year, along with translations and newspaper essays and scientific papers. It might be expected that he would strive to keep these different literary voices separate. He says:

Because my vocabulary is weighted with scientific terms I could easily introduce all kinds of esoteric variations. But I always go for something middling, which can be understood in the context, doesn't have to be looked up in the dictionary. But I also feel why should me tionary. But I also feel, why should we understand every single word? What I basically like is novelty. knowing by experiment, trial and error, maybe. A more concrete or realistic definition would be, I just write as a game. Yes! It's a game in the laboratory, with certain rules, and it is another game in a book, with other rules, and I just don't like to repeat any one game too many times.

games ends with:

One of my peculiarities is that I am not about personal language, which makes me sort of free. I play lots of games in my prose, which is quite provocative to some people, but makes my style in Czech very distinctive.

and writer born Pilsen, Czechoslovakia 23 September 1923; three Franz Kafka") with: "Sorry, I don't times married (two sons, one daughter): died 14 July 1998.

The Rampage

The last time there was a genuine rampage, herds stampeding with the zest of hurricanes, with the pulsations of a storm, and the force of destiny,

when the roar went up against the villous ceiling, when the stronger ones pushed forward to the cruel thunder of whips while the zombies fell back into permanent darkness,

the last time the cavalry charged across the whole width of the enemy

into the gap between life and death, and not even one single droplet of miserv dripped,

the last time something really won and the rest turned into compost

that was when the sperm made the journey up the oviduct.

This was 'to be or not to be'.

Since that time we've been tottering

with the embarrassment of softening skeletons, with the wistful caution of mountain gorillas in the rain;

we keep hoping for the time-lapse soul,

. . . .

SIRTH:

ARRIAG DEAT

10.

secreting marital problems and a stationary home metaphysics

in a chicken coop.

against which the adenosine triphosphate of every fucked-up cell is like the explosion of a star

Title poem from The Rampage (Faber and Faber, 1997)

Dick McDonald

DICK McDONALD has gone to his grave with one extraordinary distinction. In all probability, he is owner of the most famous name on earth, recognised by more of this planet's inhabitants than Bill Clinton, Michael Jordan or Ronaldo. That eminence is due not to political office or sporting brilliance, but to the humble hamburger.

Dick McDonald and his elder

brother Mac (Maurice) never actually ran, nor even directly invented the fast-food chain that today has 23,000 outlets in 111 countries. But theirs was the idea and theirs the original outlet. And theirs is the name it bears to this day, second only to Coca-Cola among the best known brand-names on earth. Not bad for a couple of small-town California businessmen just after the Second World War. Their stroke of genius was to understand – and apply to the restaurant - three core demands of the American and, it quickly transpired, the global consumer: that a desired product be affordable. reliable of quality and instantly available.

The first McDonald's saw the light of day in 1948 in San Bernardino, in those days a dusty little town 60 miles east of Los Angeles. No trace remains today of the original establishment on the corner of 14th and E Streets, which is now an empty lot. But in those post-war years when new highways and multi-car families were transforming the habits of young Americans, the Speedee Service System pioneered by the brothers was a revolution whose time had come. The drive-by restaurant was born.

Cars and people queued around the block for the 15-cent hamburgers, 19-cent cheeseburgers, 10-cent french fries and milkshakes at 20



cents a time. Within a few years seven other franchises followed in southern California. The formula was everywhere the same: a fixed menu of the same proven items. served straight away. And then, in 1954, came the encounter which would turn McDonald's into a national, and then an international institution.

That year a one-time piano player, property hustler and travelling salesman called Ray Kroc noticed something strange. Kroc had the exclusive distribution rights for the "multi-mixer". a new invention that could mix five milk shakes simultaneously. To his astonishment, he noticed that no less than eight of the multi-mixers were in service at a smali restaurant in San Bernardino, and decided to pay a visit. When he did. Kroc saw that milkshakes were only a small part of the story. Mac and Dick McDonald's idea, he

realised, was a potential goldmine. As a first move, to raise sales of the multi-mixer, Kroc struck a royalty deal with the brothers. He around For St Paul's Cathedral read

In all probability he is owner of the most famous name on earth, recognised by more people than Bill Clinton, Michael Jordan or Ronaldo

would open up a chain of hamburger restaurants on the McDonalds' formula, in return for which they would receive 0.5 per cent of gross takings. The first of them was on Lee Street, Des Plaines, a suburb of Chicago. This McDonald's does still exist, albeit as a museum, its golden arch and red and white tiles as immaculate as they were on opening day on 15 April 1955 (total take, according to the original ledger on display, \$366.12).

Within five years, 228 McDonald's were operating across the US, generating sales of over \$37m. Kroc had long since sold off the multi-mixer venture. In 1961 he bought out the rights of the brothers entirely, for \$2.7m - a huge sum in those days. but, measured against what Mc-Donald's has since become, one of

the steals of the century. At that point Dick McDonald's financial links with the business ended. But, as with Sir Christopher Wren, if you seek his legacy look



rights, to raise capital to expand his

The first McDonald's opened in 1948 in San Bernardino, 60 miles east of Los Angeles

the world. McDonald's restaurants Served" signs. The million people are to be found in every continent. the company directly and indirectand the Golden Arches that adorn every one of them were dreamed up by Dick. If Mac McDonald (who died in 1971) was the administrator, Dick was the marketing man. He devised the original red-and-whitetile decor, and the trademark

ly employs, the franchisees and suppliers who depend on the brand, all owe Dick McDonald a colossal

But, back in 1948 in San Bernardino, he could not have imagined what would follow: a company with

may well be the world's largest sinit serves 500 million meals a year at 870 restaurants. In the US, 96 per cent of the population uses a Mc-Donald's at least once a year (and President Clinton, famously, a good deal more often than that), and the first job of one in seven Americans "Millions [now of course "Rillions"] annual sales of \$33bn (C20bn), that was at McDonald's, Presidents and

sports stars may come and go. The gle supplier of food. In Britain alone venture to which Dick McDonald gave his name will last for ever.

Rupert Cornwell

Richard McDonald, restaurateur: born Manchester, New Hampshire 1909; married (one stepson); died Manchester, New Hampshire 14

SDAY REVIEW

der der mes

3.3

Beryl Bryden

BERYL BRYDEN was a movable jam landers. John Haim's Jelly Roll Kings session (well, almost, for she was a landers, John Haim's Jelly Roll Kings and Freedy Randall, with whom she large lady). She was an inveterate made her first recording in 1948. Brysitter in and brought a party atmosphere with her wherever she went.

world," said Humphrey Lyttelton, "even if it was a one-nighter at an oasis in the Sahara, sooner or later, a little dot would appear on the horizon and it would turn out to be Beryl Bryden. She had a terrific flair for finding out where the action was.

"I met Beryl before I ever had a band when I was gigging around London in 1946. She was a trouper in the best sense of the word who never veered from the old blues choruses and vaudeville standards.

Bryden was loved by audiences all over the world and overwhelmed them with the power of her singing, if not with its musical accuracy or tinesse. She began to make a name for herself abroad after she sang at the legendary Club du Vieux Colombier in Paris in 1953 and toured the world until her death.

ine zombies Bryden lived for jazz and loved everything about it. Although her singing style was basically inflexible and unflinching, she idolised sophisticated performers and her claims to the friendship of the demigods of jazz like Louis Armstrong. Ella Fitzgerald and Billie Holiday, although on the face of it unlikely, were true. On that first trip to Paris she was befriended by the bandleader Maxim Saury and sang with his band. While there she met Armstrong's first wife. Lil. a jazz pianist in her own right. "She was originally a tailoress and she used to make Louis Armstrong's suits during the time she was married to him," said Bryden. "We had a great time going ; around together buying material which we would make up on her sewing machine. Afterwards she used to cook us pork chops and rice in the hotel room.

"The Paris job was my first profes-sional one. One night Lionel Hampton came into the club and sat in on drums and piano. I couldn't believe it. My first pro residency and I was on the same stage as Lionel Hampton."

Always a fan, Bryden helped to found the first jazz club in her home town of Norwich in 1939. At this time she was also a founder member of the Nat Gonella fan club (her last recording was with Gonella, in March 1997). She had begun to sing as an amateur at the Cambridge Jazz Club in 1942. She moved to singer category of the Melody Maker's London in 1945 and worked as a secretary for two small independent jazz record labels, Esquire and Melodisc.

She made guest appearances with most of the traditional bands of the late Forties, including George Webb's Dixie-

den took up playing the washboard as a rhythm instrument and it became her "Wherever you were playing in the trademark for the rest of her life. But her sense of rhythm was not as good as she thought it was. Sitting next to her myself at a concert by Count Basie's orchestra at the Kilburn State during the Fifties, I lost the subtleties of Basie's rhythm work as Bryden tried to clap her hands in time with the band throughout

the entire concert. In July 1954 at the beginning of the Skiffle boom Bryden was booked to record on washboard with the banjo player Lonnie Donegan and his handleader Chris Barber, who was to play bass. The musicians were paid £2 10s each for the session. Two titles from it. "The Rock Island Line" and "John

'Wherever you were playing in the world, even if it was a one-nighter at an oasis in the Sahara, sooner or later, a dot would appear on the horizon and it would be Beryl Bryden'

Henry", were issued first as part as an album that sold 10,000 copies and later as a 78 record that pushed into the hit parade on both sides of the Atlantic and sold more than two million copies.

Soon afterwards Bryden travelled Europe in earnest, working in 1954 for the first time with the Dutch Swing College Band, the beginning of an association that was to last for many years. She recorded in many cities including, in Vienna, a session with Lionel Hampton and Fatty George and his band. In 1962 she gained second place in the jazz annual poll, and in subsequent years worked across the Far East and Africa.

In 1968 there was a crisis in the Cold War and Russian tanks bowled threateningly about the satellite countries, including Poland. The US State De- toured with the cornettist Digby Fair-



from travelling behind the Iron Curtain. Beryl Bryden was impervious to tanks and decided to short-circuit the ludicrous situation. Along with Sandy Brown and the American jazz musicians Memphis Slim and Cecil Taylor she risked her liberty by travelling to and working at the Warsaw jazz festival. As a result she was very big, in all senses of the word, in the Communist countries.

Bryden was generally billed as "Britain's Queen of the Blues", and was crowned "Queen of Jazz" in Holland in 1978. She continued to make guest appearances and in recent years toured with theatre productions like Jazzin' Around (with Allen) and I've Got What It Takes (1994), her tribute to the centenary of Bessie Smith, During 1995 she

to Medina (The Hejira), 622;

Captain John Gilbert patent-

Britain, 1618; the first ban-

issued by the Bank of Stock

ed the first dredger in

knotes in Europe were

partment forbade American musicians weather's Salute to Satchmo. She returned to Australia to sing at the 1995 Jazz Convention and fulfilled her last booking at a jazz club in Eindhoven. Holland, on 6 June.

Bryden was able to ignore any of the major developments that occurred in jazz and her music stayed the same throughout her career. It didn't need to change because that was the way her audiences wanted it. She had a separate minor career as a jazz photographer, where she showed a good grasp of form and technique and had many of her photographs published.

Steve Voce

Beryl Audrey Bryden, jazz singer washboard player and photographer. born Norwich 11 May 1920; died London 14 July 1998.

HISTORICAL NOTES

ANDREW SINCLAIR

The assassination of Elisabeth of Austria

FAME IS not only a spur, but a fear. Those who court it come to dread its power and may try to flee. Yet in the end, as Elisabeth the Empress of Austria discovered, celebrity cannot be avoided. For that is the smiler with the knife.

حيكذا من الاحل

The Empress died a hundred years ago on a pier by Lake Geneva. She had shunned a police escort. With her walked only one countess in black. The anarchist and stalker, who stabbed her to the heart, said simply: "I wanted to kill a royalty. It did not matter which one."

He had killed the most alluring figure of the Victorian age. And her fame was her executioner. She came from the Bavarian Wittelsbach family with its streak of extravagant madness. She was married too young to the Emperor of Austria, She was sold on the market, she later said, before she knew better.

After giving the imperial crown three children, including a son who would later commit suicide at Mayerling, she decided she could no longer stand the life at court. Increasingly erratic, she travelled incessantly, driven all across Europe and the Near East. The more she ran away, the more famous she became. Always hiding behind a veil or a fan or a parasol, she shunned the earliest photographers and cameramen. And yet pictures and photographs of her appeared in tens of thousands of magazines and newspapers and homes.

For she was obsessed by the care of her own beauty, even if she appeared not to want to show it off. Her travelling and her daily work-out in a travelling gym were a premature example to her sex. In a period where princesses were the film and pop stars of the time, she was the icon of her age. She was tall and slender with coiled hair that could fall down to her knees. The finest horsewoman in Europe, she was an inspiration to the independence movements in Hungary and Ireland as well as to those early feminists who saw her flight from Vienna as an opposition to male

Mark Twain and Rebecca West mourned ber murder. Her killing made Twain write that he was part of world history again. The assassination would be described and painted a thousand years from now. For Rebecca West, Elisabeth had given proof of

A CLAIM for negligence and

breach of retainer could not

expert's conduct in prepar-

ing, in conjunction with an

expert instructed by the

other party to the proceed-

ings, a joint statement indi-

cating which parts of the

evidence which they respec-

tively proposed to give at trial

The Court of Appeal allowed

the appeal of the defendant

consulting engineer against

the refusal of his application to

strike out the plaintiffs' state-

ment of claim in an action in

negligence, on the grounds that

to provide expert advice in sup-

meeting with the expert in-

structed by the insurers, a joint

statement was prepared by

that expert and the defendant.

which contained an agreed so-

lution to the problem. In the

light of the matters which had

been agreed with the insurers'

expert, the defendant revised

were or were not in issue.

domination.



greatness, although she was said to be a little mad.

In spite of her flight for 30 years, Elisabeth was too well known not to be recognised. She had chosen to turn herself into a fashion plate for other women, who were also trying to escape stifling conventions. Yet this banner of design was

her fate. She attracted danger. Elisabeth did not deserve her death. which could be said to be the result of her celebrity. Yet this most dramatic of many imperial tragedies proved to be the prelude to the collapse of the three great dynasties of Europe, the Habsburgs and the Hohenzollerns and the Romanovs, at the end of the First World War. Her single sad end was their forecast of immolation.

To seek fame is to choose its verdict. A double-edged sword, its sharp cut is a final severance. As Lord Byron wrote of the notorious in Childe Harold: "Mortals who sought and found, by dangerous road, / A path to perpetuity of fame".

Andrew Sinclair is the author of Death by Fame: a life of Elisabeth. Empress of Austria' (Constable, £16.99)

GAZETTE

1723; Jean-Baptiste Camille

Corot, painter, 1796: Mary

Baker Eddy, founder of the

BIRTHS, **MARRIAGES** & DEATHS

BIRTHS

CELLAN-JONES: On 11 July 1998, a son, Rufus Gareth, a brother for Adam, to Diane Coyle and Rory Cellan-Jones

DEATHS

SPENCER: John, passed away peacefully at home, on 13 July, peaceniny at nome, on 13 July, aged 73 years. Rimeral service to be held on Friday 17 July at 2pm at St John the Baptist Church, Pewsey, Wilts. All friends are welcome. No flowers by request. Donations may be made to Prospect Hospice, c/o F. Dewey, 26 River St, Pewsey, SN9 5DH.

26 River St. Pewsey, SN9 3DH.
WHEATLEY: Doris, formerly of
Girton College and Cambridge
Communication, died peacefully
at home on 14 July. Friend for 60
years of Kay, loving mother of
Joanna and Jacques: grandmother of Sarah, Victoria, Mark
and Rachel; great-grandmother
of Christopher, Jennifer and
Rebecca. Cremation at Cambridge City Crematorium West
Chapel on Monday 30 July at
11.15am. Family flowers only
please, but donations may be
sent, for Amnesty International, please, but donations may be sent, for Amnesty International, c/o EW. Cook Funeral Service, 49 Church Street, Willingham, Cambridge CB4 5HS.

Announcements for Gazette BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS (Births, Adoptions, Marriages, Deaths, Memorial services, Wedding anniversaries, in memoriam) are charged at £6.50 a line (VAT extra). OTHER Gazette nnouncements (notices, functions, Forthcoming marriages, Marriages), which must be submitted in writing are charged at £10 a line, VAT extra. Always include a day-time telephone number.

BIRTHDAYS Professor Anita Brookner.

art historian and novelist, 60: Mr Phillip Carrick, cricketer, 46; Mrs Margaret Court, tennis player, 56; Mr Alan Donnelly, MEP, 41; Mr Frank Field MP, Minister for Social Security and Welfare Reform, 56; Professor Sir Hugh Ford, mechanical engineer 85; Sir John Freeland. QC. former legal adviser. Foreign and Commonwealth Office, 71; Mr Brian Howard, former deputy chairman, Marks & Spencer, 72: Miss Shirley Hughes, writer and illustrator, 71; The Ven Dr Harold Lockley, former Archdeacon of Loughborough, 82; Mr Thomas Megahy, MEP, 69; Mr Edward Miller, former Master of Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge, 83; The Right Rev John Nicholls, Bishop of Sheffield, 55: Sir Michael Morland, High Court judge, 69; Lord Prentice, former government minister, 75; Professor Sir Philip Randle. biochemist, 72; General Bernard Rogers, former Supreme Allied Commander, Europe, 77; Mr Tom Rosenthal, publisher, 63; Mr John Warr, former President, MCC, 71; Miss Diana Warwick, trade union leader, 53; Sir George Young MP, former Transport Secretary, 57, Mr Pinchas Zukerman. violinist, 50.

ANNIVERSARIES

Births: Andrea del Sarto (Andrea Domenico d'Agnolo di Francesco), painter, 1486; Joseph Wilton, sculptor, 1722; Sir Joshua Reynolds, painter,

Church of Christ, Scientist, 1821; Luigi Arditi, violinist and composer, 1822; Henri Viotta, conductor and composer, 1848; Eugène Auguste Ysaye, composer and violinist, 1858; Jens Otto Harry Jespersen, linguist and philologist, 1860; George A. Birmingham (The Rev James Owen Hannayi, novelist, 1865; Roald Amundsen, Polar explorer, 1872; Trygve Halvdan Lie, statesman, 1896; Ginger Rogers (Virginia Katherine McMath). actress and dancer, 1911. Deaths: Pope Innocent III, 1216; Anne of Cleves, fourth wife of Henry VIII, 1557; François-Michel Le Tellier. Marquis de Louvois, statesman, 1691; Thomas Yalden. poet and writer of lables. 1736; Giuseppe Maria Crespi, painter and etcher. 1747; Josiah Spode, potter, 1827; Pierre-Jean de Beranger, poet, 1857; Ned Buntline (Edward Zane Carroll Judson), western writer. 1886: Gottfried Keller, novelist and poet, 1890; Edmond-Louis Antoine Huot de Goncourt. novelist, 1896; William Hamilton Gibson, illustrator, writer and naturalist, 1896; Sir Victor Alexander Haden Horsley, physician, 1916; Nicholas II, last Tsar of Russia, 1918: Alexandra (Aleksandra Fyo-

holm, 1661; Mozart's opera Il Seraglio was first performed. Vienna, 1782; the District of Columbia was established in the United States, 1790; Sir Henry Havelock arrived at the Battle of Cawnpore. 1857; the Tsar of Russia (Nicholas III and all his family were murdered by Bolsheviks at Ekaterinburg (Sverdlovsk). 1918; the world's first parking meters were installed in Oklahoma City, 1935; the first atomic test bomb was exploded at Los Alamos. New Mexico, 1945; Leopold III. King of the Belgians. abdicated. 1951: the Mont Blanc road tunnel, between France and Italy, was opened. 1965; the Bill to abolish the Greater London Council received Royal Assent, 1985; British Airways and British Caledonian announced plans for a £237m merger, 1987. Today is the Feast Day of St Athenogenes, St Eustathius of Antioch, St Fulrad, St Helier, St Mary Magdalen Postel. St Reineldis. dorovna), Tsarina of Russia. consort of Nicholas II. 1918:

National Gallery: Frances Homan, "Journeys (iii): the Earl of Arundel at home and abroad", Ipm. Victoria and Albert Museum: Irene Logan, "French Earthenware Ceramics, 16th to 18th Centuries", 20m.

British Museum: Delia

then and now", 11.30am.

Pemberton, "Living in Egypt.

LECTURES

Tate Gallery: Andrew Kennedy, "Satire, Dream and Revolution: Dada and Surrealism", Ipm. National Portrait Gallery: Irene Luna, "The Court Favourite: George Villiers, Duke of Buckingham, 1592-1628", 1.10pm. DINNERS

HM Government Lord Clinton-Davis. Minister for Trade, was the host at a dinner given vesterday evening at Lancaster House. London SW1, in honour of ECGD's Export Guarantees Advisory Council, Among those present were: Ms E P Arrey, Dr A K Banerji, Mr S J Doughly Mr R T Fox, Mr P H.A. Harre-son, Ms L. Erice, Mr G W Lynch; Mr R H. Maint-Lay

United Oxford and it disclosed no cause of action Cambridge University Club or alternatively was an abuse Sir Nicholas Scott was the of the process of the court. principal speaker of the Unitgaged by the plaintiffs to make ed Oxford and Cambridge Club at a dinner held vestera report on the subsidence day evening at the Clubwhich had occurred at their house. London SW1. His home. On the basis of that report, the plaintiffs made a claim subject was "Governance in against their insurers. That Northern Ireland", Mr Bruce claim was rejected, and the Williams, Club Chairman, presided, and Lt-Gen Scott plaintiffs commenced pro-Grant, Commander, Royal ceedings against the insurers. College of Defence Studies.

> VINTNERS' COMPANY

The following have been elected officers of the Vint ners. Company for the ensuing year: Master, Mr PE, Cooper, Upper Warden Mr A.J. Buchanan, Benter Warden, Mr D.B. Butler Adams, Swan Warden, Mr HJ Newton

chaired the discussion.

tion was due to commence, the would extend to the contents

his draft report.

respect of joint report THURSDAY

Expert immune in

be brought by a party to LAW REPORT pending proceedings against an expert whose evidence be 16 JULY 1998 proposed to call in the proceedings, where the claims were said to arise out of the Stanton and another v

> Callaghan and others Court of Appeal (Lord) Justice Nourse, Lord Justice Otton and Lord Justice Chadwick) 8 July 1998

insurers increased the amount which they had paid into court. In the light of the evidence which the defendant was proposing to give, as set out in his final report and the agreed ioint statement, the plaintiffs took the view that they had no choice but to accept the monies in court, and the action was thus settled.

The defendant had been en-The plaintiffs thereafter commenced proceedings against the defendant, alleging that he had acted negligently and in breach of implied terms in his contract of retainer. The defendant's application to strike out the plaintiffs' statement of claim under RSC Order 18 rule 19 was refused and the The defendant was retained defendant appealed. port of that claim. Following a

Rupert Jackson QC and David Sears (Veale Wasbrough, Bristol) for the defendants: Jonathan Coggins (Norman Savile & Co) for the plaintiffs.

Lord Justice Chadwick said that an expert witness who gave evidence at a trial was immune from suit in respect of anything which he said in Shortly before trial of the accourt, and that immunity

of the report which he adopted as, or incorporated in, his evidence. Where an expert witness gave evidence at a trial the immunity which he would enjoy in respect of that evidence was not to be circumvented by a suit based on the report itself.

The immunity did not extend to protect an expert, who had been retained to advise as to the merits of a party's claim in litigation, from a suit in respect of that advice by the party by whom he had been retained, notwithstanding that it was in contemplation that the expert would be a witness at the trial if that litigation were to proceed.

If an expert were to be immune from suit by the party retaining him in respect of the contents of a report prepared for the purpose of exchange prior to trial, in circumstances where he did not, in the event. give evidence at the trial such immunity had to be founded upon some identifiable ground of public policy:

In order that court time should not be taken up in consideration of matters which were not truly in issue, experts were encouraged to identify, in advance of the trial, those parts of their evidence on which they were, or were not. in agreement. The public interest in facilitating full and frank discussion between experts before trial required that each should be free to make proper concessions without fear that any departure from advice previously given to the party retaining him would be seen as evidence of negligence, and that justified granting immunity.

Kate O'Hanion, Barrister

ROYAL **ENGAGEMENTS**

The Duke of Edinburgh. Colonel-in-Chief, attends the 43rd Annual Intelligence Corps Officers' Dinner at the

Headquarters of the Defence Intelligence and Security Centre, Chicksands, Shefford, Bedfordshire. The Prince of Wales undertakes engagements in Gravesend and Faversham, Kent. The Princess Royal, Patron,

Sense, opens new workshops at Percy Business Park, Oldbury, West Midlands, visits a group home at Pocklington Heath, Birmingham and visits a Sense shop at Yardley, Birmingham; and presents the Birmingham Post

Joseph Hilaire Belloc, writer.

quand, novelist, 1960. On this

day: Brennus and the Gauls

Era began when Muhammad

began his flight from Mecca

1953; John Phillips Mar-

defeated the Romans at

Allia, 390 BC; the Muslim

Business Awards at the International Convention Centre, Birmingham. Princess Alexandra, President, attends a reception at the Imperial Cancer Research Fund, London WC2.

CHASGING OF THE GUARD The Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment mounts the Queen's Life Guard at Horse Guards Ham; No 7 Company Coldstream Guards mounts the Queen's Guard, at Buckingham Palace, 11 30am, band provided by the Scots Guards.

FROM THE diminutive of the French bouge, a budget was originally a small leather bag, but the meaning of the word was soon extended to refer to the contents of such a bag, and the phrase "to open one's budget" was formerly in common use meaning to speak one's mind. Then

WORDS WILLIAM HARTSTON

budget, n. or v.

Robert Walpole was the first Chancellor to have his statement called a budget when, in 1733, a pamphlet was published attacking the economists hijacked it. his "political legerdemain"

to compare Walpole with a charlatan opening his wallet of quack medicines, but budget was quickly adopted as the official term for a statement of the nation's finances. Oddly enough. one of the first to use it in that way was Robert Walpole's son, Horace.

under the title The Budget

Opened. The intention was

Post Gazette announcements to the Gazette Editor, The Independent, telephone 0171-293 2012 (24-hour answering machine 0171-293 2011) or fax to 0171-293 2010. Please give a daytime telephone member

My best friend is dying – how should I help him?

IT'S TERRIBLY easy to be for an hour or so once a morning he were to change his mind, he overtaken by emotion when faced and once an afternoon. The more would have another "family" down with something as big as the friends who could be persuaded to South who were just as loving and DILEMMAS prospect of Aids. Every instinct take part, the thinner the burden eager to care for him as his own. cries out to a friend to be as helpful as possible - it might be their last friend could perhaps visit every day, chance. But the instinct has to be and stay one day at weekends, but balanced with an interest in selfsurvival, for if Robin were to become ground down by his role, to would not take on the whole task of situation. It would be all too easy to became snappy and bitter, then he caring HIV and AIDS organisations would have done more a disservice would almost certainly be able to considered offer without thinking than a service.

A friend of mine, in a fit of generosity, let out her spare bedroom to a single parent she had met at a party who was covered in bruises from the battering she'd received from her husband. It all worked fine for a couple of weeks until the husband started staking out her flat, and threatening my friend as well as his wife. She began to live in fear, ended up hating the girl she'd invited in, and the final straw was way back and started living there, too. It took weeks of unpleasantness

outcome of Robin and John's arrangement would end so sadly, but having a sick person to stay, parthan likely going to continue to be sick, and get sicker, is a huge move to make and Robin must decide if red ribbons on lapels. he is really up to it. Just to move him in, like a sack of potatoes, and wait the fact that Robin has suggested for him to rot, would be no good to a major plan to make his life more anyone. I would suggest that he propose to John that he sets up a network of carers from his friends. each of which could look in on him

could be spread. Robin, as oldest though be would take on the administration of such a system, he prove some helpers - there was a time a couple of years ago when there seemed to be almost more buddies and AIDS counsellors than people with AIDS themselves. For a week of every month, John would,

if he were well enough, go back to

Scotland to give everyone a respite,

but he would be based in London. Now it may be that John just longs for home at a time like this. He is just craving the sweet, heather-filled air, he longs to be surwhen the husband bludgeoned his rounded by his family and the Scottish accents of his childhood. He longs to eat porridge and oatcakes and solicitors letters to get them out. and smoked venison, rather than Now it's highly unlikely that the crackers and cornflakes and steaks. Perhaps he feels certain he is on the way out and wants to return home where he began despite the fact that ticularly a sick person who is more no one knows he is gay or even that he is ill. Perhaps he rather wants to get away from gay culture and

> Even if this is what he decides, comfortable in London would make him feel enormously touched and happy, and if he goes to Scotland. he will go in the knowledge that if

I AM struck by the fact that Robin has thought carefully about John's dive in and make a genuine but illeverything through.

I think Robin has to be careful not to let his own needs get in the way. He seems keen to be near John. Understandable, but is this the most important factor? What is very important is that John makes the best choices for himself in the remainder of his life. Does he really want to be with his parents? Is this in fact a constructive step because they ignore the fact he's gay and HIV positive? After knowing John for 18 years. Robin may have some insight into John's relationship with his parents.

I think Robin is quite within his rights to offer John an alternative to moving back to Scotland. However, he needs to weigh up the facts and the different perceptions of expectations which might be engendered in them both. He also needs to be prepared for the responses of "yes", "no", or "maybe", and their consequences. If "no", he has to let John go. It would at least give them the opportunity to discuss their circumstances at length. Given the gravity of the situation, and the fact that they have been

friends for 18 years, I would like to



IRONSIDE

DILEMMAS

36-year-old Robin has been platonic friends with John for 18 years. John is HIV positive and now that he is depressed and ill, he is thinking of going home to his parents in

Scotland, who love him but refuse to accept either his exuality or his illness. Robin's wondering if he should ask him to stay with him in London instead, near his friends and the latest treatment. But could he cope?

think that Robin and John can discuss this objectively without being NICHOLAS E GOUGH

JOHN MAY be gay and HIV+, he may be your friend of 18 years but before all of these he is a son in need of the embrace and support of his beyond words; yet words are all I

for John is to support his decision is so great; yet you cannot know its to return home.

His parents have found it their son's sexuality and have been embarrassed to discuss the repercussions of his lifestyle choice, but they love him and accept him as their son.

The opportunity to nurse and be nursed will likely bring healing to the parent-child relationship and help each to come to terms with

The distance put between you and John and his illness will inevitably change your relationmean broken: simply different.

As a long distance, long-standing friend, you could become for John the safe outlet for anger, pain and frustration that he will need in the dark days ahead. You will also be sufficiently removed to help his parents keep a perspective. Use your knowledge of the disease and the gay community to put them in touch with advice and support networks. You could also help by giving the carers much needed respite from time to time. (John will also appreciate respite from his carers.)

Worry less about your fear for what you cannot do and think more positively about what you can do to support your friend in his chosen new circumstances. LYNDA EMES Reading, Berks

YOUR DILEMMA grieves me

family. The kindest thing you can do have to try with. Your compassion efficacy on its stretching extent.

Could you earn for the both of difficult to come to terms with you? Indefinitely? Could you pay for day-care while you were out grafting? Would your ailing friend be happy with the home you could immediately provided - let alone with long-term provision? After all, you've never before co-habited,

have you? Please suggest that he could stay with you for a few months, or a year, between his "selling-up" and his removal to Scotland. You make Scotland sound like the ends of the earth; but 200/300 miles? Nonsense! ship with him but change need not I'm not a Scot myself and know the culture is different; but I reckon the NHS is alive and very well just there. I visit my relatives as often as I can find the fare and the "get up and go" in my old age - about 3

times a year. You could be a half-way-house between London and Scotland. Please invite his parents to stay with you and visit their son in your interim care. They might come out from being in denial of their son's condition and orientation.

His present decline need not signify the onset of full-blown Aids. It could be his own reaction to his own dilemma that depresses him and makes him neglect himself.

Please offer a short commitment (if he accepts it) and a handrail to his parents (if they accept it). More than that you cannot know to undertake.

Good on yer!

NEXT WEEK'S DILEMMA

Dear Virginia, My daughter always had what we thought was a very happy marriage until suddenly it was revealed that our son-in-law had had an affair. My daughter was beside herself with grief. She came to stay with us for a month with our grandchild, and when we'd looked after her, she felt strong enough to go home. Now she has told us she is giving him a second chance and taking him: back. I have begged and begged her to think again. I cannot bear to imagine her so unhappy again and I have no doubt he will only continue having affairs and making her miserable. There is no way I am having him to the house, I have explained to my daughter, after what he has done But my husband disagrees. Has anyone else been in my situation? How do they cope? Yours sincerely, Angela.

Letters are welcome, and everyone who has a suggestion quoted will be sent a bouquet from Interflora. Send comments and suggestions to Virginia Ironside, Features Department. The Independent, 1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E145DL, fax 0171-293 2182, email dilemmas@independent.co.uk by Tuesday morning

A party's not a party without Elton, Mick, Salman, Tony and Cherie

Ever wondered why you never get invited to the best bashes in town? A list of Britain's most desirable party guests might give you a clue. By Maureen Freely

THERE IS a scene in George Elton John is a number one, and Romero's Dawn of the Dead when Mick Jagger shares his number one of the heroes looks down from the roof of a shopping mall that is under siege by zombies and asks another, more knowledgeable hero why these zombies are so keen to break down the doors and get inside.

The answer is something along the lines of "They come here because they remember the mail was a very important place for them when they were alive".

I had cause to remember these words last Thursday, when I went to the launch for Ronan Bennett's new novel The Catastrophist. For reasons that were not entirely clear to many of the guests, it took place n a long hallway on the ground floor of Bush House, the home of the World Service. Because of the usual 3BC security measures at the main loor, it took about half an hour to gain entrance.

The party, when and if you found t, was relaxed and informal. Many of those in attendance were the author's personal friends. But you vould not have known that from vatching the waves of late arrivals vho saw the party in full swing hrough the plate-glass windows of he side entrance, and tried to get a through the revolving doors.

They seemed to lose all power of eason when the doors refused to oudge. The idea that there might be mother entrance did not even seem o occur to them. They just stood here, hurling themselves rhythmcally against the glass, as if they had 10 choice over their movements. They looked at Us Inside with a naunted hunger, as if we had somehing that they knew to be of cenral importance, even though they ould not remember what it was.

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As the evening progressed, and moved on to other parties, I saw m many other faces. Although just bout everyone I met made a point if letting me know that they had parties than I had been, they all eemed convinced that the best party of them all, the one where all he most important people had een all along, was the one at the ther end of the rainbow - and would re over before they got to it.

I am not sure where this delusion omes from. But we must all suffer rom it. because there is no other vay of explaining why Tatler's new ist of the nation's 250 most wanted lartygoers has caused such a comnotion. The list makes no sense nd presumably this is why people ind it so fascinating.

three spot with Jerry, but the second most wanted guest is the transatlantic literary agent Ed Victor. The partner, the artist Sam Taylor Wood, Branson at No 30...

to the same parties? If they do, what in God's name do they find to talk about? If this is the sort of mix you have to endure once you are admitted to the jet set, then darling, I would rather walk.

still famous"

They must have fun, too, deciding which parties to grace with their presence. But what trials they must endure if they choose the wrong one.

I once went to a rather ordinary newspaper do where all the guests were squished to one side, as if to avoid a contagious disease. When I made my way through the crowd to investigate. I found Mick Jagger standing there, looking lost and hat same expression come and go bored, with no one to talk to but his entourage. I gasped, as did the man standing next to me. I said nothing. The man standing next to een invited to at least three more me then said in a rather loud voice. "My God! He's so short."

know how many times. At certain points there were so many speechso short", that it sounded like a chorus. At the time I felt sorry for poor little Mick, but I have since been told that he was probably used to it, and that he probably even knew he had been invited to perform precisely

Mick Jagger shares his number gallery owner Jay Jopling and his make it into the top 10, as do Tony and Cherie. Hugh Grant, Liz Hurley and Salman Rushdie are in the top 20. Peter Mandelson is at No 25; Kate Moss is at No 29, Richard Surely all these people do not go

For all we know, most of the Names mentioned above may feel the same way. The Tatler survey was about invitations, not acceptances. A spokesman for Elton John insists that he hardly goes out at all. He is a catch precisely because he is so hard to get. Which is not to say that the Chosen Few do not mind dreadfully if they are not asked. Susanna Johnston, author of Parties: A Literary Companion. reminds me that the Eltons of the world are just as insecure as the rest of us, perhaps even more so on account of having more to lose and so "are frightfully pleased to have it confirmed that they are

Over the course of the next hour, I saw this scene repeat itself I do not less swooning women, and so many icalous men saying "My God, he is

According to Kathy Lette, an



Elton John, the number one guest choice of the nation's hosts, according to those in the know

party animal, the best parties are they're going out, when you know Talus one or two people from the pop world so that everyone else can have someone to look down on".

Another hostess, who wishes to any fun." remain nameless, insists that the best human ingredient of them all is an alcoholic. If he or she throws a little scene, "then everyone else from the few members of the goes home feeling an awful lot bet-

ter. thinking, thank God it wasn't me. "A party has failed unless it makes most of its guests feel superior." she adds. "There's all that snubbing that goes on in advance - or another, it is a part of their job. conversation and social climbing beasking all your enemies whether Either they do it to make the right

the ones that serve up a good mix full well they're not - looking of talented, highly amusing people around to see who's in and who's from many different walks of life. out, and who is making a fool of himself, and all the name-dropping you can do afterwards... but heaven only knows, none of those people are ever

Perhaps this is because they are not having fun. This is one of two things that I heard again and again chosen few who agreed to speak to me (the other thing was "And by the way, you can't say you've spoken to me"). They go out and pretend to love going out because, in some way

contacts, or they do it because they have to be seen in the right places to stay on top. But they are not doing it right unless they work very hard to make it look as if it is not work. So what is these people's idea of

a good party? This question invariably led to an outburst of sighs, and then sad but vague comments about "You know, the ones we all used to go to when we were younger, when there was a huge throng of people dancing, and all anyone wanted was to get laid." When you got older and started going to serious parties, the consensus was, dancing gave way to came more important than sex.

dreary, and so rarely live up to those hopes we all so stupidly entertain, flying in the face of the facts as we sit in our preparatory bubble baths

agonising over what to wear. According to Gill Hornby, the best idea is to give up on parties altogether. She is the inventor of glittering London's most serious

alternative, the River Cafe Quiz. These evenings are successful, she says, "because they provide a common purpose in the way that dancing once did, and conversation

never will. "Everyone is on the same wavelength, and when you deal with people at that level, an element of Richard Young/Rex Features

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eloraie Graie

That is why the parties are so competition is essential if they're going to have a good evening."

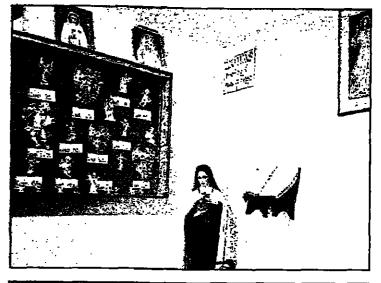
Another good thing is that no one has the time to snub anyone. "People can't look over your shoulder when they're at a quiz."

I have heard that a number of people on that Tatler list are quiz regulars, but Gill insists that it is not exclusive. Only a set number of invitations goes out, but each person gets to ask five of his or her own friends. This creates a cosy and relaxed atmosphere, which is another reason why the quizzes are so popular. But they still cannot save me from the question I end up asking about all the best parties; why have I not been invited?

حكنات الاعل

Ciic







Visions of Mary and Mammon

ISLAND stares out to the Atlantic, a western outpost teetering at the edge of the vast grey ocean. In the summertime clumps of pure white lilies and hedgerows of wild red fuchsias burn brightly against the brown heather land, intermingled with giant rhubarb plants, poisonous to the palate and alien to the eye.

Despite its rugged mountains, its pale gold stretches of sand, its medieval peat bogs and its clear water inlets, few will ever visit this isolated Irish coastline.

At the far edge of County Mayo, it does not attract hordes of landscape-hungry tourists in the same way as does Donegal or Kerry. It relies instead on its fishing, its farming and its religion.

Its 2500 residents scattered across the 52-square-mile island to check the validity of any claims, struck down with a second illness, get some of their sustenance from and even then it never becomes part from which she died. Gallagher community: mass is held every day and 90 per cent of islanders attend church at least once a week. In Achill, as in many of Ireland's remote reaches, religion is woven closely

into the fabric of life. In 1993 Christina Gallagher, a married mother of two in her forties who claimed to have seen visions of the Virgin, bought a former convent in Achill Sound, a village at the mouth of the island. Her arrival set in motion a chain of events that has led this solid community to question its identity and spread mistrust

among its neighbours. Over the years Gallagher became a religious industry attracting between 200 and 500 people on pilgrimages every week, while generating hundreds of thousands of tourists spent their time, so witnesses say, in a religious frenzy, passing rosary beads through their fingers for hours on end.

Yet today, Christina Gallagher is opening the door of her so-called House of Prayer for the last time.

Sitting in his church just 50 yards away, Father John Kenny tries to make sense of the turmoil which in the name of God has driven a wedge through the village of Achill Sound. "You know this all started so

simply," says Father Kenny, staring at his mountain of paperwork on Gallagher's House of Prayer. "The previous bishop gave Christina her mission to open a small retreat for six or seven people as a place of quiet reflection and contemplation. He did not give her visions any kind of ecclesiastical recognition because it woman refused to recognise her takes years for the Catholic church cure as the work of God, she was places of worship. It is a devout of doctrine. He just thought her obvious religious devotion was very commendable and useful.

"But we ended up with something quiet different, something that could split this community in two."

It was in 1985 in a County Sligo grotto that Gallagher first stepped into visionary shoes when she witnessed an apparition of Christ. As news of the increasingly miraculous visions spread from her County Mayo home across Ireland, a band of devotees clustered around Gallagher, including one Father Gerald McGinnity, who became her spiritual director, and interpreter of the

In 1993, the year before the 36year-old Kenny joined the rural parish, Gallagher bought and renov-

pounds in revenue for the locals. The from her many devoted benefactors, spending between £75,000 and £200,000 to make the place habitable. In the five years that the House

of Prayer has been in existence, Gallagher's renown as a visionary with healing powers has grown. She has travelled extensively in the UK. North America and Australia. sprinkling her fundamentalist theology across the world.

Naneng Higgens, a 46-year-old Indonesian Muslim living in County Clare, suffered severe back pain as a result of a riding accident. After a single visit to the House of Prayer, she was apparently cured. and converted to Catholicism.

More chillingly, in her private press biography Gallagher tells of a woman allegedly healed of cancer by the House of Prayer. When the interpreted this as "A lesson take the gift from God but rather to proclaim it for His honour."

As the news of Gallagher's powers spread, the self-dubbed "ordinary woman' with visions was transformed into a money-spinning religious industry. More than 10,000 pilgrims flocked to her House of Prayer every year. The religious tourists revitalised Achill, previously condemned to the poor pickings of fishing, farming and an eight-week holiday season.

"There was an awful overemphasis on the devil and purgatory and limbo up at the House of Prayer." says Father Kenny. lowering his voice. "It sends a very negative message about Catholicism. She was going back to an earlier way ated the convent with donations of representing our faith. You could

Christina Gallagher's House of Prayer brought thousands of religious pilgrims

and their money to remote Achill Island. But the Church has

condemned her as a fraud. By Nicole Veash

say a personality cult was develop-

He was not the only clergyman to feel concerned. In 1996 a new Archbishop, Dr Michael Neary, investigated the increasingly controversial House of Prayer. With the full support of Gallagher, he set up an ecclesiastical commission examining the deluge of miracles, apparitions and claims of stigmata.

In December 1997 the Archbishop published his findings. He found "no evidence" of miracles and introduced a number of provisions to integrate the House of Prayer into Achill's own village community. He said that mass and confessions should only be held in the island's established churches - an attempt to steer Gallagher's shrine of devotion back to its original function as a low-

It was these pronouncements better than in our wildest dreams. that have led the quiet Achill enclave to turn in on itself with potentially explosive ferocity. Gallagher, on reading the findings, instantly appealed to Rome against the bishop.

For seven months an uneasy tension descended on Achill Island. The community debated, argued and in some cases sulked over the acrimonious split between the established Church and the fundamentalist visionaries.

Two weeks ago Gallagher went on national radio to announce the closure of the House of Prayer, shocking the Archbishop, who had no idea and no wish to see the House close.

"My heart is broken," Gallagher said. "I don't want any more battles about obedience to the Church. There were no negotiations with the bishop, just dictation. My heart and soul have been stripped. I can't go

Achill residents bitter and confused. The talk in the village shops and pubs is of little else. The collected business interests think they have been betrayed by the bishops.

Among them is Chris Connaughton. His Achill Sound Hotel. overlooks one of the island's many Atlantic inlets. Its plain Seventies motel-style exterior nestles uncomfortably against the dramatic coastline.
"It's difficult for people to under-

stand," he says, leaning over his formica reception. "Before Christian Gallagher came to Achill Sound we had to survive on an eight-week holiday season, and if the weather was dreary even fewer came to visit. When she arrived, dozens of bed and breakfasts sprung up and trade was Mrs Gallagher."

on any longer. I just want some peace and quiet."

"We bought most of our provisions from the local butcher and grocer, so they did well too. A lot of families have come to depend on

Martin McGreal, the local butcher, is also angry. "The bishop has no respect for us," he says. "The church doesn't seem to care that our businesses could go to the wall. I think they are jealous because she inspires such devotion, and has given Achill a greater standing with the world

"Some are forgetting that the bishop's primary concern is for his parishioners' spirituality, and not their businesses," says Father Kenny. "Mammon is wreaking a lot of havoc."

The village whisperings are, it is true. all about money. Local businesses are not only concerned with Gallagher because their survival depends on her-they talk about her econd home, built on the County Mayo mainland, with its security gates and high stone walls - unusual in this quiet rural spot. "People might ask where all the

money is coming from, but they shouldn't bother," says Chris Connaughton. "Mrs Gallagher has never asked for donations. She doesn't hand a plate round after mass like the local clergy. All this talk about money just obscures the main issue: that she's the one person who is trying to do Achill some good."

As the recriminations continue to eat into the soul of Achill, the woman at the heart of the controversy appears to have gone to ground.

At the pale grey House of Prayer, the blinds are drawn and the car park stands empty. When I knock at an incongruous conservatory at-

tached to the end of the convent, a young man with bleached blond hair comes to the door.

"I'm sorry, but the House of Prayer is closed and I can't help you," he says in a thick Lancashire accent. Eventually he reluctantly slides open the conservatory door and guides us into the House of

Prayer shop. "I suppose you can have a quick look round here," he says, pointing at a garish array of religious paraphernalia. Glass cabinets crammed with effigies fill the counters and the wall space, giving it the appearance

of a discount jeweller's shop. As at Lourdes or Knock, the price of devotion is not cheap. A clutch of amateurish videos, detailing Gallagher's visions, cost £15 a piece. Audio cassettes are £8 each, and you can buy the paperback biography for a tenner.

"Don't ask me about books or videos," says the lad, "I don't read to be convinced about Mrs Gallagher. The moment I walked through the front gate a great calmness came over me. Before, I had a stressful life, but Mrs Gallagher gave me peace, and many other people too. I don't know how we will cope without the House of Prayer."

In the middle of last week, Christina Gallagher announced that the House of Prayer and its chapel, which no longer holds the blessed sacrament, would be reopening for its fifth anniversary celebration.

Thousands of vision-starved pilgrims are expected to flock to Achill Island, joining local residents in a religious demonstration in the name of Christina Gallagher. On the sideline the local clergy and the rest of the island will stand, just watching.

If you've got a title, flaunt it

EARLIER THIS week, while promoting the US premiere of his documentary Crown and Country. Prince Edward told a group of American journalists here in California that, unlike Britain, Americans don't have hang-ups about titles. "In Britain, if you've got a title, then you obviously don't have any brains," he said, "so there's no point talking about anything else.

It was a very flattering assumption about our culture. But, frankly, we are not that mature.

Americans revere titles. How else would Edward, the head of a small, independent production company plugging a show on a publicly funded network, draw as many reporters as the television convention's earlier press conferences featuring Jodie Foster and Jeremy Irons? What could make a bunch of jaded reporters tiptoe around hard questions and stumble over modes of address such as "the Prince", "your Royal Highness" and "Sir", despite his insistence on being simply "Edward Windsor"?

Because British royalty, titles and their surrounding pomp and circumstance fascinate us. At Edward's press conference, we loved sitting down to English high tea. trying to decipher clotted cream, and curiously studying the cautious royal as if he were some moving Madame Tussaud's exhibit. While Edward's ability consistently to land programmes on American airwaves is a testament to his producing skills,

Prince Edward thinks abandoning his title will win him friends in meritocratic

America. But why waste a good marketing tool? By Susan Karlin

and the downplaying of his regal lineage may be admirable, the bottom line is: it's kinda cool he's a prince. See, to us, a title is not a class issue. It is a marketing gimmick. Americans loathe the concept of

monarchy on political principle, until we meet them. Then we give them their own television shows. PBS, the American network airing Edward's Crown and Country. would have been insane not to tap that promotional font. Nor, on a more commercial level, would Sarah Ferguson have landed a cameo on Friends, a bevy of Stateside talk shows and an ABC special, had she not been a duchess. But the very thing that seems to annoy the British - using your standing in life to advance career and connections

 is what Americans respect. Everyone's got a great book, screenplay, look, business idea - you name it. But not everyone has a hook. If you are lucky enough to be born with one, for God's sake, honey work it. Who knows, you may even turn out to be talented. The goal is

to make an entrance. And if the genetic roulette wheel casts you on the wrong side of a castle wall, there is always the back-



Plain Edward Windsor

have offered a lifetime of talent: Sir Anthony Hopkins: Dame Judi Dench. This is easier to swallow for Brits because it is based on achievement. But its purpose is wasted on Yanks. The time for a title is at the beginning of a career, when you could use a little push.

It is like getting a gold watch at retirement. Great. Just when you do not have to be anywhere. To be honest, you really needed it all those end title - one you get because you years ago when you were young and

chronically late for job interviews. In America, the closest thing we have to royalty and titles is celebrity. In their absence, we worship the powerful, the rich, the famous, the award-winning. And, on occasion, their progeny and bedmates. Remember Hugh Grant." These things have the same promotional comph as titles and not to take advantage is downright un-American. John F Kennedy Jr probably would not have landed a deal for his own political magazine unless he had happened to be the son of a US president. If Kim Basinger lives to be 100, she will never again issue a press release without the words "Oscar-winning actress" preceding

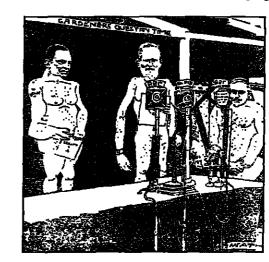
But celebrity is not the same as a title. It is theoretically available to anyone - just ask Monica Lewinsky. And it rarely lasts (just ask Monica) Lewinsky after the next election). A title gets you into the pages of Vanitu Fair any time. Moreover, it is something that Americans will never, ever be able to carry nearly as well as the Brits. Sorry, but the Duke of Brooklyn just does not have

the same ring to it. So, despite Edward's kind assessment of American mentality, we are just as conscious of titles as Brits, just less hostile about them. And now, 200-plus years after America rejected British monarchy, they have become our adopted media darlings. Somewhere, King George III is having a really good laugh.

POETIC LICENCE

NAKED GARDENERS' OUESTION TIME BY MARTIN NEWELL ILLUSTRATED BY MICHAEL HEATH

This week, Gordeners' Question Time was recorded before an audience of 200 nudists at the Naturist Foundation near Orpington.



Caution pruning roses on a ladder As the thorns may prove to be rapacious Gruesome fates await the naked gardener Cutting back the Blackthorns and Acacias

Bending down to tend the Rhododendrons When replacing soil (ericaceous) Keep allergic under-hangs from contact With ranunculi and primulaceas

Guard against the holly-leafed Mahonia Certain strains of Sumac and their juices. Breasts and bottoms brushing on Laburnum. And the Firethorn grown for screening uses

As for naked naturists with neighbours In the garden, shed your inhibitions

But with due regard for good relations Best consider putting up partitions

Rapid-growing conifers, once trendy May promote the raising of objections Pergolas, espaliers or panels Are just three acceptable erections

Artichokes, rewarding in the winter Will create a windbreak in the garden Tips may be at risk from early frostbite Therefore keep exposed by day to harden

Finally, if nude when spraying or strimming Goggles, gloves and groin-protector will do. in the summer, check for damaged rootstock And watch out for blackspot, rust and mildew

You can cry me a river

Death is not a common theme in children's fiction. But, says the author of 'River Boy', it's what life is all about. (No wonder the Swedes love him.) By Ann Treneman

just another normal 44year-old guy who happens to write dark, brooding books for children. But now that he has won the Carnegie Medal for his book River Boy - a dark, brooding novel about death - this claim must not be allowed to stand. "Look, I'm horribly normal really," he says. "I am a vegetarian but that's about as

Then I present the evidence. know why," he says. His first book your head." Midget (about a boy whose older brother tortures him) even won an gians see yesterday's decision by the Carnegie Medal judges as simply following their lead.

Then there are other things. He is an expert in the Swedish language. He knows a lot about squash. Then there is his photographic memory. At one point, he recites his class roll call from when he was 13. I say that I think this is strange, and he looks shocked. "I'm sure you can remember yours, too." I say that I cannot even remember who was in my asked me to write a book." class, much less the register, and he is quiet for a minute. "Well, I'm sure you could," he insists. "They were read out every day."

You see what I mean. His writing career is also unusual, to put it mildly. It began at age five, writing stories so short as to be haiku-esque (every chapter was just one sentence), about cowboys and Francis

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im Bowler claims to be Viking. He wrote through primary school and grammar school in Leigh-on-Sea.

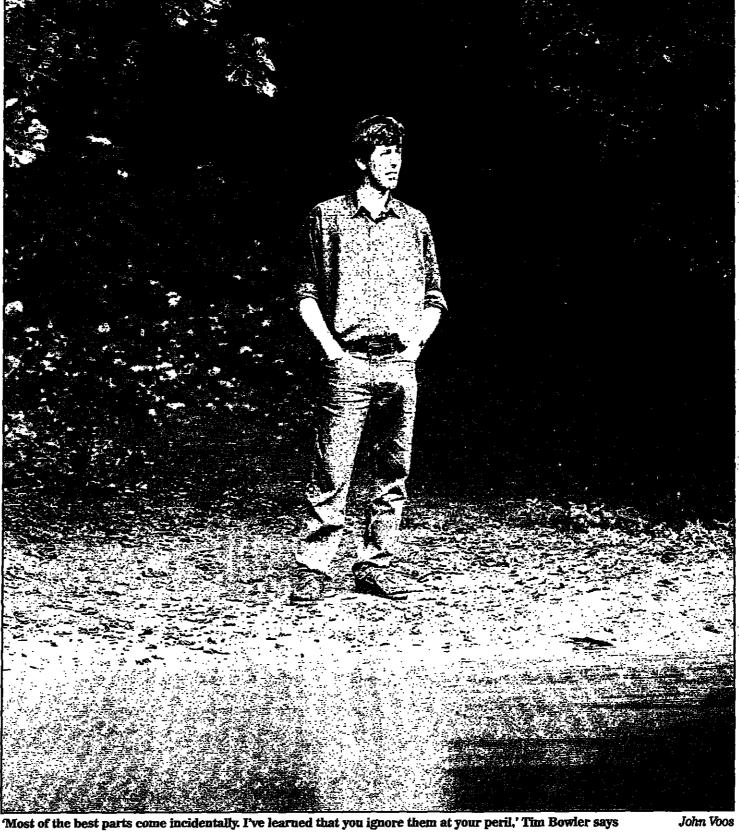
At East Anglia University, he began night-writing. "I worked between 11pm and 4am. That was weird and that was in secret. I just found I was attracted to the quiet hours. It was poetry mainly. I was pretty rubbish poetry, in my view." he says and then promptly recites a poem that he wrote at that time. "I think that's awful. But it's like music, isn't it? Take the theme tune Most damning, perhaps, is the fact of The Archers. Don't you just that he is big in Belgium. "Yes, I am hate it? But if you put that bloody a minor celebrity in Belgium. I don't music on, it starts going round in

He worked as a teacher and a

translator but never stopped writing. award there. Undoubtedly the Bel- It took 10 years of night-writing to produce his first book. "I wrote most of it in a flat in Strawberry Hill at 3 o'clock in the morning. The only place where I could write on a typewriter and not wake my wife was this box room, which was too small even to put a heater in. So I would be sitting there in a sleeping bag with another blanket round me and a Thermos flask, typing this bloody novel, and thinking What the hell am I doing this for?' I mean, no one had

He rewrote that book nine times. "I worked it out, it's only a short book, 45,000 words or something, and I wrote well over half a million to get there. The first draft was 85,000 words and everything went in the bin, other than 200 words which were about a dog! I rewrite and rewrite. But I'm getting better"

He is, although that may be be-Drake and someone named Kurt the cause he gave up night hours a few



years ago and started writing as his main job (though he still translates Swedish - his favourite language of the six that he speaks). He and his wife have left London and live in a tiny village in Devon. So now, he says, he gets up at 5.30 every day to write. "In the morning?!" I ask, appalled, and he nods happily.

Perhaps that is why his second book (also dark and brooding) only took three years to write. River Boy took him a year and only three old girl named Jess coming to terms with the death of her cantankerous grandfather. Water is a theme: she is a swimmer and her grandfather was too as a boy. Now he and the family have gone back to his boyhood home where he insists on painting the river that runs alongside it. Jess helps him do this and, in the process, starts to believe in a river ghost of sorts.

is where any similarity with Jess ends. He says he just wanted to write about death because it's one of life's great mysteries. The story arrived, as all of his do, in bits and pieces during the rewriting. "Most of the best parts come incidentally. They pop up like something out of a toaster. I've learned from experience that you ignore these things at your peril. If you do ignore them, you don't rewrites. It is the story of a 14-year- get what Truman Capote called the unexpected dividend. I'm not a plotter, I'm a plunger I can't do plots. I think it's PD James who has a flow chart on the wall. That's great for the tears just start to flow after a her, but for me any plots that I've worked out have gone out the win-

Tim Bowler lost his own grandfather when he was 14, but says that

River Boy is for children ages 12 and up but, even so, breaks most of read from that part in public). the rules. The pace is not exactly snappy, for starters. "It is slow mov-

ing, but it was meant to move at the speed of a river." And, as for the plot. but then I mention it again and we even Tim admits that it is a bit of a disaster in traditional boy's adventure terms. "Well, let's see. It's about someone who dies. The main character is a girl. And there's a bit of a ghostly quality to it and a lot of oh, there's a lot of swimming in it too. There's no baddy and no one gets

killed. But what I know from the feed-

back I get is that they are reading it and reading it in one sitting." Boy. It's one of those books where while with no obvious trigger. This is true for Tim as well, who still cannot read from the last 40 pages without weeping (and therefore does not

By the end of the interview, I think Published by Oxford University that I've convinced Tim Bowler Press at £5.99.

that he may be a little bit unusual. are right back to the beginning.

Weird? I would say it was a deeply interiorised life. Most of us have our daily existence, when you pay mortgages and clean the car and do the things that many people do. description of nature and a river and. But it doesn't alter the fact that most of us live a secret inner-life. Some people express that in writing or painting. Writing is one of the things that drives me, but it's not the only thing. It comes second to my wife or And crying. Everyone - boy, girl, family. I once read a story about while his father was dying or some-

> River Boy' is the winner of the Carnegie Medal, which is awarded by the Library Association and sponsored by Royal Mail.

thing. Well, that's not me.

RIVER BOY

AN EXTRACT FROM TIM BOWLER'S NOVEL



anni merici

IT DIDN'T start with the river boy It started, as so many things started, with Grandpa, and with swimming. It was :: only later, when she came to think things over, that she realised that in a strange way the river boy had been part of her all along, like the figment of a dream.

And the dream was her life. Half-past nine in the morning and the pool was crowded already. That was the down-side to summerholidays, especially hot ones like this, but she knew she shouldn't grumble: she'd been here since six-thirty, together with the usual hardcore of serious swimmers. and she'd managed a leisurely four miles without interruption.

She heard Grandpa's voice calling her.

"Keep going, Jess!" She glanced up at him as she flashed by, and smiled to herself. She knew what "keep going" meant. Dear old Grandpa: he'd only been here twenty minutes and he was bored already ..

Grandpa called out again. "Everything's fine, Jess. Keep going."

She kicked off the wall and

headed back down the pool, suddenly desperately uneasy. Something was wrong but she couldn't work out what it was. His words rang in her head: everything's fine, everything's fine. And yet there was something in the very contrariness of Grandpa that told her he was trying to conceal something. He was such a stubborn, prickly old man, he would always say everything was fine.

Especially when it wasn't. She broke her stroke and stopped, treading water, and searched for Grandpa. There he was, still standing by the shallow end, watching the children. He looked all right no different from before. Just bored. Perhaps she was imagining all this. He saw her and raised a hand to

Then to her horror. clutched it over his heart and crashed into the pool.

Do the right thing "AFTER WHAT I've seen in the THEATRE

last few hours, I'll believe anything," cries the king of Sea Star Island. He's not the only one. Steven Pimlott's outstanding production of Dr Dolittle is an almost unbelievable success. There's more wit and imagination in the first 10 minutes than in the whole of Disney's garish, mechanical Beauty and the Beast and while no one would pretend the producers are doing this for the sake of high art, there's not a trace of crass wallet-fleecing of Scturday Night Fever. It's all the more impressive

when you consider the raw material. There were 1,500 animals in 20th Century-Fox's outlandishly expensive movie. but the only one anyone re-members is the turkey that was the film. When news broke that this galumphing monster was moving from film to the stage, insiders shook their heads in disbelief. But they hadn't reckoned on this creative team.

Pimlott and designer Mark Thompson were responsible for the spectacularly successful rethink of Joseph and his Amazing Technicolor Dream-coat and lightning has struck twice. From the second Hugh Vanstone's lighting comes up on the storybook clouds on the sky-blue panels on both sides of the stage, you realise you are

in for a colourful evening. The cast pour down on to the stage from walkways on each side of the auditorium and launch into the opening song. "My Friend the Doctor". It's here that the doubts kick in. This number is perky but bland and strikingly reminiscent of 'How do you Solve a Problem

DR DOLITTLE LABATT'S APOLLO HAMMERSMITH LONDON

dow by page 10."

Music. Indeed the whole score feels secondhand. Dolittle's impassioned courtroom song questioning why we don't respect animals should have vegetarians making block bookings but there's no getting away from the fact that it's lyrically the cynicism surrounding the lazy and wholly indebted to



Phillip Schofield shines

"Why Can't the English" from My Fair Lady, a song made famous by Rex Harrison who later played Dolittle in the film. Composer and lyricist Leslie Bricusse has written streams of hits but this score, despite winning a Best Song Oscar for "Talk to the Animals" is overextended with dull ballads.

If Aletta Collins' choreography was halfway decent you might not notice, but this is the production's only serious failing. You keep waiting for the like Maria? from The Sound of adrenatine rush of great dance

atic baritone John Rawnsley has a ball singing "I've Never Seen Anything Like It" but the chief reason for disbelief is watching all this dance potential turn into a costume parade.

Yet with costumes as good as

this, you almost don't care. The dream sequence in particular alludes to the original books' illustrations but together with the wildly inventive sets, the whole look and feel of the show is imbued with joyful theatrical life. The doctor's higgledy-piggledy house becomes a beguiling ship rolling in the waves of a superbly lit storm but the show's not-so-secret pleasure is spotting the animals crammed into every nook and cranny of the set. As created by Jim Henson's Creature Shop, everything from the gloriously realised Giant Pink Sea Snail to a particularly entrancing pig gives you the warmth and wit of The Muppet Show. There's even a special guest appearance by Julie Andrews, who pops in to voice to

the parrot. It's undeniable that Pimlott and his team can, er, do little with Bricusse's inconsequential book. However, they actually manage to undercut his absurdly conventional romantic take a theatrically sophisticated aim at children's hearts. So who better to cast than Phillip Schofield? He can do beaming naivety in his sleep, but his sense of enjoyment is extraordinarily infectious, as is the whole show. Grab a kid and go.

Box office 0870 606 3400. A version of this review appeared in later editions of ley-style dance routine. uesterday's paper DAVID BENEDICT

Thumpingly absurd "EVERYTHING CHANGES," de-

clares Amphitryon, father of Herakles. "One day we're down, the next we're up." Well, did you ever? Granted, you don't look for originality in a play nearly 2,500 years old, but nor do you expect Euripides to stoop to quite this level of banality.

For the first 10 minutes or so of Nick Philippou's production, it seems obvious why Herakles has never been ranked high among Euripides' output, but has been dismissed as a simple melodrama. You are quickly disabused of this notion, though: the memory of its translator, Kenneth McLeish, who died at the end of last year, Herakles emerges as a startling piece of

When the action starts, Herakles is missing, presumed dead, after descending to the Underworld to steal the threeheaded dog Kerberos. With him out of the way, the Theban dictator Lykos intends to murder Herakles' wife Megara and their children, who have taken refuge with Amphitryon at the temple of Zeus Protector. As designed by Stewart Laing, this is a platform at one end of the stage with exposed wires and paper pasted to the walls, givplot and are not ashamed to ing it the appearance of a squat.

Megara and Amphitryon, in shabby modern dress, argue over the best way to approach a doom that seems inevitable. The first half ends with Her-

akles' return, the slaying of Lykos (a shocking amount of offstage thumping and screaming) and a chorus of gimlet-eyed elderly Thebans expressing their joy in a demented Busby Berke-

What follows is a striking example of the reversal of fortune THEATRE HERAKLES THE GATE LONDON

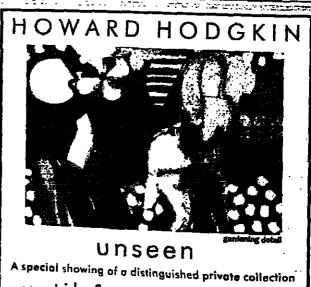
that the Greeks were so keen on: Herakles has made an enemy of Hera, who now sends the minor deity Madness to visit him; driven insane, he kills his wife and children unore thumping). The rest of the play is taken up with Herakles coming to terms with the disaster.

The play has its longueurs, and the staging does not always in this production, dedicated to help - in particular, the raising of the entire back wall of the auditorium to reveal the scene of carnage that follows Herakles' madness should be a moment of revelation; but the

process takes so long that tension is replaced by tedium. McLeish's translation, in trying to respect Euripides' comparatively modern diction, does sometimes lapse into banality.

For the most part, though, it has a conciseness that serves the play well, and Philippou manages to convey the absurdity of the plot without diminishing its horror. And that sentence - "Everything changes. One day we're down, the next we're up" - has come to seem less like a truism than a truth, a piece of reason to cling to in a terrible world.

Herakles continues at The Gate, London, booking to 1 Aug (0171-229 0706) ROBERT HANKS



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THE BIG PICTURE



RYAN GILBEY

GODZILLA (PG) DIRECTOR: ROLAND EMMERICH STARRING: MATTHEW BRODERICK, JEAN RENO RUNNING TIME: 139 MINS

York is in turmoil. The roads are crammed with orpeople scooping out their own eye sockets in disbelief. The police attempt to restore order, yet even they know that the Big Apple may never re-cover. Yes, ladies and gentlemen, Tina Brown has left the building. And, on a less serious note, there is also an enormous lizard rampaging through the city, avoiding only certain parts of Brooklyn where even a 400-ft-high nuclear reptile would not be foolish enough to tread.

Perhaps the biggest problem with the new version of Godzīlla is that, even as Madison Avenue is being razed store by store, killing thousands and making the journey home a real bummer for commuters, you find your thoughts straying to more trivial matters. Such as: I bet there is still somewhere among the rubble where you could get a salmon bagel. And: where on earth is poor Woody Allen going to relocate to now?

In fact, it is a pity that the film does not make more of its unique location, once Godzilla has decided to settle there because of the skyscrapers, which will hide him, and the wealth of avant-garde theatre, which will keep him stimulated Maybe Ghostbusters II has already used up the best New York gag by having the city's collective mean spirit transformed into a toxic goo ng through the si there is a nice moment early on when someone feels the first tremors from Godzilla's footsteps and says: "Don't tell me it's another parade," with a seen-it-all sigh. But if it were not for the occasional landmark having clumps knocked out of it - there goes the Chrysler Building; oops, that was the Brooklyn Bridge - then, for all you knew, it could be North Acton beneath that relentless rain and endless night.

The darkness also serves a cosmetic function, muddying the picture's not-so-special effects. The original Godzilla, who bumbled through Japanese science-fiction adventures from 1954 onwards, was a man in a rubber suit. The 1998 model has been arrived at through a combination of CGI, miniatures and animatronic models, but terror has not increased with the technological capabilities. This is partly down to the studio, which demands. reasonably enough, that when a



The biggest problem with the monster is that, even as New York is razed to the ground, you find your thoughts straying to more trivial matters

budget rises, so the potential audiences must soar accordingly to recoup costs; as with Jurassic Park, a PG-rating will have been a condition of Godzilla before a word of the script was even typed.

Even so, on the few occasions when you can see the monster, you may wish you could not. A master animator such as Ray Harryhausen was always just as interested in what a creature looked like as the degree of havoc it could wreak. Modeffects have replaced Harryhausen's jerky stop-motion with lithe, balletic movements, but the identity has been blanded out at the conception stage, too.

There is nothing very striking about this Godzilla. If it reminds you of anything as it climbs wearily from the city sewers, it will be a crabby old man struggling out of

bed on a December morning. Even the scaly skin, bad gums and talon-like toenails are the same. It also has very bad posture. Is there not something fundamen-

tally wrong with a monster movie in which you are drawn only to notice adverse curvature of the spine? Where is its personality? Where are its idiosyncrasies? It may be more honest not to shoehorn the creature into an anthropomorphic template, but who cares about honesty when you are dealing with men outrunning mutant reptiles on flooded streets and slippery jetties?

Indeed, the closest that the film comes to engaging you is when the scientist, Nick (Matthew Broderick). photographs Godzilia with a disposable camera, and the monster leans in, seeming to smirk and

preen like a starlet teasing a persistent paparazzo.

Cameras are everywhere in the movie. There is Nick's itsy-bitsy fun camera, which survives the carnage and destruction - that is the power of product placement for you. The combination of TV reporters and possible apocalypse offers potential for dry satire and dumb action, as demonstrated by The Man with the Deadly Lens. and. with the apparent omnipresence of a go-getting cameraman who goes by the name of Animal (Hank Azaria), Godzilla seems to be travelling in the same direction. Animal can stand directly in Godzilla's path, safe in the knowledge that he will not be trampled, as though his press accreditation somehow

makes him immortal. Meanwhile, the rest of the char-

to the TV camera. A French secret service agent (Jean Reno) is allowed unconditional purity, since he has nothing to do with the media. Then there is Charles Caiman (Harry Shearer, a slimy reporter who is putting the moves on his assistant. Audrey (Maria Pitillo), who in turn still yearns for Nick. Whatever hap-

"You left without a phone call," he complains. "That was eight years ago." she

"People change." That clears that up, then.

pened with her and Nick?

Anyway, Godzilla's attack on New York turns out not to be such a terrible thing after all. As with disaster movies, the catastrophe in question is both a manifestation of ugly human desires and, eventually,

acters are judged by their proximity the catalyst for redemption. Godzilla York's ruins. When Nick chances is born in the fall-out from nuclear testing, and in attempting to vanquish the monster, the film's characters learn about themselves. Audrey decides she has had enough of Charles, and quits her job. A gruff sergeant manfully holds back a tear and praises one of his charges: "That was one hell of a job, soldier."

But the fondness of the director. Roland Emmerich, for such wacky digressions has deserted him this time out. Along with his producer and co-writer Dean Devlin, Emmerich has been responsible for some agreeably silly modern B-movies, including Stargate and Independence Day, though their sense of fun is only fleetingly evident in Godzilla.

But there is something pompous in the film's fetishistic worship of military hardware, and in the tour of New

upon the collapsed sign for Madison Square Garden, Emmerich cranks up the soleron score as though this were a moment of profound despair, like the Statue of Liberty scene in Planet of the Apes. It is not, of course. The building survives, inhabited by thousands of Godzilla's bloodthirsty offspring - honestly, the Garden has not seen this many slimy old reptiles since the last time Fleetwood Mac played there. And down in the stalls are the eggs that the monster has laid, like any titan fearful of its own extinction, whether it is movie-makers desperate to transform a film into a franchise, or media

royalty vacating a throne. With this in mind, perhaps Tina Brown's enemies may now feel compelled to comb the skirting-boards at their earliest convenience.

ALSO SHOWING

LIFE IS ALL YOU GET WOLFGANG BECKER (18) THE THIEF PAVEL CHUKRAI (15) BE BARNEY'S GREAT ADVENTURE STEVE GOMER (U) THE LITTLE MERMAID RON CLEMENTS/JOHN MUSKER (U)

Even 'Twin Peaks' wasn't this bizarre

LIFE IS All You Get takes place in that no-man's-land where Ken Loach overlaps with Bertrand Blier in the Venn diagram of cinema. The film begins with a violent riot. Into the chaos stumbles Jan (Jurgen Vogel), a young butcher who has been having himself fiddled with while Berlin burns. He leaves his lover's bed for work, gets tangled up with Vera (Christiane Paul), inadvertently thumps two plain-clothes policemen and earns himself a night in the cells. The next day, his girlfriend reveals that she is HIV-positive. If I told you that the film develops into a piercingly funny black comedy about life before death, you might think that my perception had been fogged by popcorn fumes. Not so. The writer/ director Wolfgang Becker mixes the grim with the goofy, and although the picture is flecked with skew-whiff humour, you never get the feeling that he is trying to sweeten a bitter pill; this is just the way he sees

The Berlin which he depicts is peopled by characters who would have been exiled from Twin Peaks for being too eccentric. The absurdity does not seem studied, and it is often undercut by intangible menace, as befits a film where death pops up on every corner. Hiding out in a stranger's flat, Jan and Vera hear torturous sounds coming from down the hall, but it is only a man in a blindfold listening to horror videos and trying to guess their identity by the screams. There are shopping mall Santas in hideous rubber masks, while a particular delight is a raindrenched funeral beneath the autobahn, where the mourners grimace as the coffin sinks into

its flooded grave. unforgiving landscape are real human beings (even the slightly creepy Teddy boy

Get is something strange and wonderful indeed - a gallows comedy that leaves you feeling warm even as the tightening noose chafes your neck. In The Thief, the writer/

director Pavel Chukrai tries for that brand of unforced.

A gallows comedy that leaves you feeling warm even as the tightening noose chafes your neck

The cumulative effect of blank-faced poetry pioneered these details is to disorient the by Louis Malle in Lacombe. viewer though Becker never Lucien, and by Tarkovsky in forgets that the characters Ivan's Childhood, though he whom he has stranded in this does not quite pull it off. The point of those films was that they did not steer the audience toward the resonances - they Buddy, played by Ricky Tom- let the depths reveal them-

linson, speaking German but selves. Chukrai does wo much the same as in Barney's sickly badly dubbed). Life is All You of the work for you: his film is pre-school learning videos: most striking when it rests on intimation, such as when it is building the relationship between the six-year-old Sanya (Misha Philipchuk) and his mother's lover, Tolyan (Vladimir Mashkov), who wears a soldier's uniform but carries a kit-bag bulging with crockery and cutlery looted on his travels around Fifties Russia. He is the thief of the title, but he has filched more than just other people's goblets – he has stolen the heart of Katya Ekaterina Rednikova) and the innocence of her little boy, too.

Chukrai lets the story unfold at its own pace until the final 15 minutes, when he does himself a grave disservice by tying up the loose ends and sending us home with all mysteries solved.

Younger viewers too sensitive to brave Godzilla get their own monster in Barney's Great Adventure, though Barney the wacky Day-glo dinosaur is arguably the more disturbing creation. The ingredients are

nursery rhymes sung by horribly well adjusted children with embalmed smiles. The ination is healthy, though there is a worrying absence of conflict; even Sesame Street conceded that people do not get along all the time. Still. my four- and five-year-olds lapped up every second of it. and on this occasion you should probably listen to them.

Personally, I prefer The Little Mermaid, Disney's film of the Hans Christian Andersen story, which is re-released this week. In 1990, this movie rejuvenated the studio's ailing animation industry, which was then considered to be past its prime. But The Little Mermoid changed all that. It has everything: snazzy songs, inventive compositions and one of the few movie heroines who can give her measurements as 36, 24 and 36p-a-pound.



RYAN GILBEY Christiane Paul as Vera in 'Life is all You Get'

The trouble with blondes and birds



Camille Paglia is in town to defend Hitchcock and resurrect Tippi Hedren - and she is in a great mood. By Roger Clarke

THE EXPECTED lesbian ambush never quite arrived at Camille Paglia's NFT salon on Saturday - a talk on Hitchcock's 1963 classic shocker, The Birds, which coincided with the publication of her entirely serious, and very good, BFI monograph on the self-same subject.

I had met her the day before in the hotel where she was staying and had unwisely bought her a bunch of Madonna lilies, which had puzzled rather than delighted her, she insisted I keep them, and take possession of a single white rose forlornly lain at her feet by the previous interviewer. "I'm a follower of Oscar Wilde, I love artifice," she joked with the NFT audience next day, perhaps wishing someone would give her green carnations next time they thought of flowers, for God's sake. So much for the nature goddess spiel: this was campy Camille. This was the Camille who learnt so much about movies from her gay male friends (as she recounts in Vamps & Tramps). The Camille who, with those gay friends. worshipped at the shrine of the bitch – in this case the bitch heroine of The Birds, Melanie Daniels. beauty, Tippi Hedren.

So it was love, love, love at rancour. Seated in front of me in the NFT theatre, a lesbian couple exchanged black looks throughout her performance. Their confusion was palpable; Camille was simply not saying anything very inflammatory. Quelle horreur! Her familiar arsenal of generalisations and anti-feminist, anti "granola lykes" jokes remained firmly locked

Just as it seemed that we were about to finish the evening with barey a murmur of dissent, a woman at last! - finally tried to nail Hitch to he mast. Why could Paglia not acept that Hitchcock was a shameless orturer of women, a fat, sadistic oveur who dreamed of mutilating he bottle-blonde actresses he could lever even have hoped to sleep

Dressed as she was in raven plack, and moving with quick and al-



Tippi Hedren, whose reputation Camille Paglia is fighting to restore, in Hitchcock's classic, "The Birds', where nature fights back against man with a violent fury

seemed poised to swoop on this feckless individual, I trembled as I re-Camille's salon, and barely a hint of called the words she had said to me only the day before: "Hitchcock is

> A lesbian couple exchanged black looks, their confusion palpable; Camille was not saying anything inflammatory

going to last when the rubbish heap is filled with feminist theory, OK? His films will live, OK? And when they die, their graves will be forgotten and the wind and the rain will ob-literate their names...

This being little short of a curse that the Borgias would have been proud of, I had every reason to believe that she would strike with deadly force at any feminist warriors

moment of danger passed in the twinkling of an eye; her beak did not peck, her claws did not slash. In fact, all evening she was in her best bird-of-paradise mode; preening her academic feathers, billing and cooing with the audience, feeling on top of her subject and confident with it, rather than haranguing people for asking her the wrong questions.

Paglia is mild-mannered; Paglia is reasonable; Paglia is polite. She merely reminds her questioner that the film concludes with the victory of the older woman, Lydia (played by Jessica Tandy, whose face and pepper-grey hairs bear a startling resemblance to Paglia herself), over the younger. As the car drives away from the flimsy wooden house on the California coast which the bird population has almost pecked to bits. Lydia artfully cradles the rebellious Melanie, now that Melanie has been reduced to a bleeding, mangled catatonic by the vicious assault waves of gulls and crows. It is a

The Jackal (18), (available to

Where to begin?. Well, casting Bruce Willis as the eponymous

assassin is a mistake, for a start.

Edward Fox's coldiy anonymous killer sat very well with Fred Zinneman's detached 1973

adaptation of Frederick Forsyth's

best seller, but Demi's ex, despite a succession of ludicrous

disguises, never looks anything

other than what he is: a boiled

The director of the FBI is

Jones's guileless update, and

terrorist, is charged with his

defence in exchange for leniency.

Sidney Poitier is wasted as the Fed suit who keeps Gere on a

leash and what little tension

there is ebbs away as Caton-

tedious duel. Willis's false

moustaches and wigs are a

Starship Troopers (18),

(available to rent now)

Jones distills the drama into a

giggle, but Gere spoils any of the

incidental kitsch by keeping up a passable brogue patter. Shame.

In all senses of the description.

Richard Gere, as an Irish

considered a worthy substitution of De Gaulle in Michael Caton-

egg with a smirk.

rent from tomorrow)

from other women than from men. "I'm sympathetic to Melanie as a

bitch," Paglia was telling me in our interview, always talking about The Birds in the present tense, as if it were still screening in front of her, her "OK" word falling like chisel blows of emphasis, a caesura that in fact allows her to breathe. "I love the glamour image of a woman who toys with men. OK? I don't like the way Melanie becomes domesticated in the movie. She became toned down by her friendship with the little girl Cathy. I love the clothes she wears and I discovered Hitchcock had overseen every detail of her dress, OK? From that first scene in the square in San Francisco where she has those black gloves and that long handbag that looks as if it contains a phallus, OK? To her famous green costume and all those spring colours denoting oestrus and the fur coat she wears for animality."

There is no doubt that Paglia is somewhat in love with Tippi Hedren

blood-red nails and the walk that got her noticed by Hitchcock. Paglia is a well known and voluble enthusiast for screen vamps such as Liz Taylor and Sharon Stone, but Tippi is special because she has been forgotten, and Camille is going to make sure of her restoration to the Hollywood pantheon. In fact, as we meet and she sips Pilsner beer, she admits to being somewhat agitated over Tippi. "About now in LA the books will be arriving in Shambala (Tippi's animal sanctuary) and I'm expecting her agent to call her wherever she is and tell her that this is happening in London and she's a star again, OK? And not just some Hitchcock second choice to Grace Kelly."

By all accounts, it took every ounce of La Paglia's formidable resolve to get an interview with Tippi Hedren, who has been unwilling to talk of her film roles over the years, partly because she has been appalled by the things that have been said about the man she respected

story about Hitchcock deliberately frightening Tippi Hedren's daughter (who grew up to be the actress Melanie Griffith), by giving the lit-tle girl a "coffin" with a doll made to

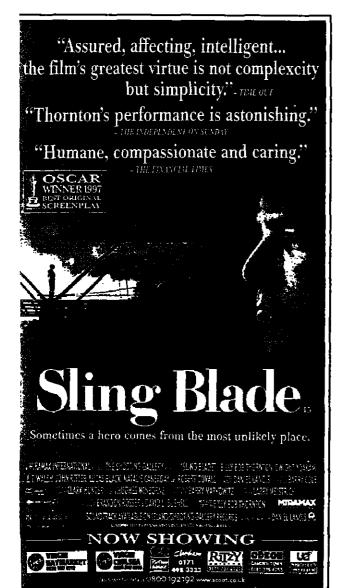
'I'm sympathetic to Melanie as a bitch. I love the glamour image of a woman who toys with men, okay?'

look like her mother inside. Tippi did not think it was grotesque. "It was a very beautiful pine box,' says Paglia, infuriated, "which in the retelling has been turned into a coffin."

Give Camille ber due here; everyone is now in agreement that Hedren deserves to get more credit for her roles in Hitchcock's Marnie and The

most bird-like voracity back and in the audience. But no strike came. familiar Paglia anti-feminist motif: - all the immaculate maquillage and always called "Mr" Hitchcock. Birds, and La Paglia has made the of her silent exile on her own, Bardot-like animal sanctuary. For it is a curious fact that Hedren retired from making one of the most startling films ever made about the revenge of nature on mankind, to devote her life to cosseting animals that have been abused by mankind.

As the NFT salon draws to a close without any major incident, I ponder on this new Camille Paglia who was very different from the one who stormed out of that interview with Jonathan Dimbleby, the irascible, impatient, pugnacious dominatrix of US feminism. This Paglia was almost kittenish in her admiration for Tippi Hedren, and defended Hitchcock with all the possessiveness of a mother bear. Not only was this the human face of Camille Paglia; this was the Paglia at ease who really did know more about her subject than almost anyone else living. In repose, her armour-plating has never looked more



VIDEO WATCH

MIKE HIGGINS



Richard Gere plays an Irish terrorist in 'The Jackal'

Paul Verhoeven is actually quite a dangerous film maker. On one level. his adaptation of Robert A. Heinlein's authoritarian sci-fi fantasy is disturbingly literal: in order to win 'citizenship', a generation of clean-cut Aryan children throws itself into the

Earth's war with an alien race of giant insects.

As ever with Verhoeven, there's a satirical edge to all the gratuitous violence. A series of po-faced interactive TV ads, among other things, exhort mothers to develop anti-insect tendencies in their

kids and show that the director has maintained his knowing take on social hysteria. These sequences all feel a bit tacked-on,

however. Where Verhoeven seems really interested - and this is a bit worrying - is in the interminable

frequency and you've little idea whether Verhoeven is appalled or titiliated by all the violence. Queasy fun. Godzilla: The Original Films,

battle scenes. Limbs fly with

(available to buy now £4.99 each) As Roland Emmerich's CGI monster prepares to stomp on the UK, why not settle down with a Godzilla whose technical creators obviously felt that they'd fulfilled their special effects brief by hiding the zip on his suit and getting his tail to waggle. Fukuda's take on the nuclear

age that World War Two visited on Japan began in the Fifties as a relatively serious sci-fi commentary. By the Sixties, however, Godzilla was scrapping with his scaly rivals and the world's powers monster-tongue firmly in cheek, and it's from that era that 4 Front Video's have

made available seven films. Winningly, the film-makers' ambition seems to have been in inverse proportion to the resources they had at their disposal: the more mutant beasts challenging Godzilla's supremacy, the shakier the cardboard cities look and the more camp it gets.

Greg Motolla went back to his childhood for his debut feature about a suburban family's ride into town, and cast up-and-coming Parker Posey as the laid-back sister. Liese Spencer met the director, while James Mottram spoke to the prize-winning actress

unholy estate

to some relatives one Christmas, with steel-rimmed spectacles and a shiny bald head. Instead, he that the American director Greg Motolla experienced what he calls a "Twilight Zone epiphany", "I was sitting, looking at the back of my parents' heads, and they were addressing me and my brother as though we were still children," he recalls. "It was surreal. In a short span, our whole family history relived itself. I started to think about how, after a certain age, the family

dynamic gets stuck in a time warp. Back in his New York apartment some weeks later, Motolla channelled his experience into a first stature called The Daytrippers, which is released next week. It sees a suburban clan sardined into the family station wagon for a comic study of stalled relationships. Written with intelligence and humour, Motolla's winning debut swaps the soft-top escapism of most road movies for a claustrophobic study of everyday, nuclear dysfunction.

Not that the director would be pleased to see his story described as such. "I remember hearing some expert claim that 97 per cent of all families are dysfunctional," writes Motolla in his press notes for The Daytrippers, "and it made me think of two things: first, that the word 'dysfunctional" is meaningless, ince it pertains to almost every ving human; secondly, who are the freaks that make up that 3 per

cent of 'functional' families?" Such impeccable reasoning uggests a fastidious academic from New York's Upper East Side, and on first sight Motolla certainly cuts an and a shiny bald head. Instead, he turns out to be a genial, unassuming character who grew up in New York's comfortable commuter dormitory of Long Island, before going to art school to experiment with his first black-and-white shorts.

"Some were little, neo-realist stories," he cringes, "and some were the classic 'I'm a junior in college, I'm really depressed, I'm going to make a movie about suicide'. Totally indulgent. Unspeakably bad." Happily, despite such student atrocities Motolia's enthusiasm and talent won him a place at Columbia Film School, where he found himself being taught by such luminaries as Sydney Lumet and David Mamet.

"With Sydney Lumet we'd meet once a week and he'd tell us stories about working with Al Pacino in Serpico and that kind of thing," recalls Motolla. "With David Mamet it was sort of a workshop, sort of a lecture and sort of David Mamet working out his aggression against students. He's the smartest person I've ever met, but maybe not the warmest. He would say, 'you do not impress me at all, and until you do I'm not going to be nice to you'. By the end of the semester none of us had impressed him."

Motolla's work did, however, impress the Sex. Lies and Videotope director Steven Soderburgh, who offered to produce his first feature. Motolla wrote a screenplay for a Dolce Vita-style film called Lush Life. "It was an ambitious first movie, and it became clear that no ascetic figure, all white skin and one was going to give me the kind



Greg Mottola, (left), directs Campbell Scott on the set of 'The Daytrippers'

of money I needed to get it made," says Motolla. "So one day, Steven and his co-producer, Nancy Tannebaum, said, 'you know, if you can think of something that can be done really cheaply, we'll give you

'97 per cent of families are dysfunctional. Who are the freaks of the three per cent of "functional" families?'

money from our own pockets -\$20.000 to \$30,000 to get you started'." The same week, Motolla turned

30 and decided it was time for action. "I looked at my notes for The Daytrippers again and I thought, 'I can write this quickly. These are

people I know'." Eschewing Columbia's conservative blueprint for "tight stories with perfect pay-offs", Motolia drafted a "messy psychological story" about a woman (Hope Davis) who discovers a mysterious love letter to her husband and travels, with her family, from the suburbs to the city to confront him.

When it came to casting, Motolla's twenties spent burnming around on the New York film scene paid off, since he was already friends with some of the finest independent actors around. With Stanley Tucci on board as Davis's husband, Ann Meara as her overbearing mum, Parker Posey as her sulky student sister and Liev Schreiber as Parker's pompous boyfriend Carl, all that was left was to dream up a title for his production company. Motolla dubbed it "Fiasco Productions".

On the first, bitterly cold day of filming, Motolla's camera was stolen before filming had even started. Over the next 15 days of his cashstarved, \$65,000 shoot, Ann Meara was to sweat out a 101-degree fever on set, while Hope Davis would trip over gaffer tape, spraining both ankles so badly that she needed crutches. Somehow Motolia managed to keep it all rolling, although he began to regret setting so many of his scenes in the car, as it sim-

cast and the crew to fit inside. After a year of post-production, The Daytrippers was finally finished, only to be rejected by the Sundance Film Festival - a decision Motolla believes to have been rooted in the class-consciousness of the US indie scene. "Only movies that mercilessly mock the middle

ply was not big enough for both the

class are cool. It's not thought right to show that you like them."

The Daytrippers, he says, is more interested in lambasting such inverted snobbery. "The whole point of the Carl character is that he's so

He began to regret so many scenes in the car as both cast and crew could not fit in it

appalled at coming from an ordinary, middle-class background that he invents this utterly ridiculous persona," smiles Motolla. "He's an absurd exaggeration of people I knew growing up at film and art school, who were wildly preten-

tious because they couldn't bear the idea of being square."

No "son of heroin addicts" himself, Motolla confesses to going through his own period of "reinvention", before returning to his bourgeois roots. "I really believe that it's important to try to understand people in your family and have them understand you," he says. "It's all very tedious and unpleasant, but I think that it pays off."

A certain level of domestic understanding certainly helped Motolla. Mum and Dad not only provided the inspiration for his story, but also offered their home as a location, cooked cast and crew lasagne and even appeared as extras.

With the movie's success, their son looks set for a film career that will take him a little further away

An Indie Queen in Tinseltown

ANY ACTRESS who would pay half her air fare to get to the set of a film, or lend the producers her credit ards to charge rental cars to, canhot be in it for the money. The intriguingly named Parker Posey gives just this impression - a schoolgirl who flirts in an adult world.

"It's play for me, work and play. It's fun for me to work so much. It's fun to go into movieland, to think about other characters and stories. I get to dress up and play. You get to just sorta hang out on movie sets; no one's bored of it yet."

At 29, Posey, having appeared in nigh-on 30 independent films (five in 1991 alone), shows no signs of boredom, despite being the hardestworking unknown in the business. Such dedication has begun to pay off, though, with increasing media attention in the US - not that it matters a jot. She was branded "Queen of the Indies" by Time, but her brusque "I don't know, I don't care" reply as to her response to this indicates the importance she gives it.

more appropriate. A tramp tramps along. A tramp is a sleaze. I work; this is what I do. You don't know what's going to happen when you follow a certain instinct. You can't know where it's going to take you." Her work, most notably for the die veterans Richard Linklater (Dazed and Confused, SubUrbia). Hal Hartley (Amateur, Flirt) and Gregg Araki (The Doom Generation), takes her to extremes that

"I prefer Indie Tramp' – It seems

most people will not try. With a penchant for working with first-time directors (Noah Baum-

bach on Kicking and Screaming; Julian Schnabel on Basquiath, Posey is by nature a risk-taker, a dark beauty with the ability to punch verbally and seduce visually. In Greg Mottola's bittersweet

dysfunctional family comedy The Daytrippers she plays Jo. grungy but all-seeing sister to Eliza (Hope Davis), who suspects her husband (Stanley Tucci) of infidelity. En masse, the family - including Posey's ultra-pretentious boyfriend Liev Schreiber - pack the station wagon to track down the wayward hubby. It is a role in which the waiflike Posey sits back, chews gum and generously allows the stronger characters to flourish, while she slyly undermines them all.

"All families create their own dramas," notes Posey, who won a Special Jury Prize at last year's Sundance Film Festival for her work on another suffocating family piece, played a Jackie Onassis obsessive. The power that the family has over each other. They love so much they end up doing the wrong thing because they want to control someone, make it all right. That's what happens in The Daytrippers."

Her own family life was as much of a mixed bag as her career. Posey was born in Baltimore, where her father was stationed in the army, and was named after the Fifties model Suzy Parker. She was born three months premature, and spent the first six weeks in an incubator.

Quite what this isolation did for her is hard to say, but by the time she was 10, her family showed concern:



The House of Yes, in which she Parker Posey (far right) as the grungy but all-seeing Jo

My parents thought I had a learn- tions, though typically she claims day-dreamer. They said I had a short attention span, and I still do.' Her constant stretching and legcrossing, as if preparing to be a mischievous Puck, testify to this.

She grew up in the Deep South. spending time in Monroe, Louisiana, with her grandmother, who called her "Missy" - and her teen years in Laurel, Mississippi, the home town of Blanche Dubois, where her father still owns a Nissan car dealership.

She was the pseudo-Goth surrounded by Prom-Queen wannabes. Not that it dented her career ambi-

ing disability because I was such a acting is "just something I fell into". She auditioned for the dance proramme at the prestigious North Carolina School of Arts, only for her father to be told that she should be-

come an actress, as a dancer's life was tough. She majored in acting at SUNY Purchase in New York (where she was kept on "probation" by various teachers throughout most of her four years there; and shared a room with ER's Sherry Stringfield, capturing her own prize soap role three weeks before graduation, on CBS's

As the World Turns. Featured roles came in Armistead Maupin's TV mini-series Tales of the City, and films such as The Coneheads and Party Girl kick-started her screen career, but talking about it just does not hold her attention.

"What's really interesting about my work is reading a script and thinking. Oh my God, this has happened to me in my real life! The synchronicity of how all parts connect is fascinating. The life a movie takes on when you're working is wild. You start to project stories...

She breaks off for a second. "You're asking all these questions and I really don't have pat answers." The attention-span thing comes

through a myriad subjects as she pulls a lash from my eye.

"The movie affects you," she continues, calm once more. "You think about what a story's about all the time. It doesn't leave you. It's in you. True life is shaded by the story you've been thinking about all day at work. It's wild fantasy, real life and the projections you make."

Fantasy for the moment includes launching her own online, five-day journal (www.ilineltd.com), and a mock diary called "The Incredibly Hilarious, Possibly True and Potentially Libellous Stories from the Set of SubUrbia", in which she rips the insular and insecure world of actors to shreds with a sand-dry wit as

evident online as in her conversation. Meanwhile, for Posey, real life consists of a split between living in her Manhattan apartment and jetting around the globe to be with her Irish actor boyfriend Stuart Townsend (they met when The House of Yes and Resurrection Man premiered on the same night at last year's London Film Festival).

Films such as Christopher Guest's small-town mockumentary Waiting for Guffman and Brian Skeet's The Misadventures of Marouret, in which she plays a Manhattan author drifting away from hubby Jeremy Northam, maintain her high work ethic, but are as yet unseen in the IIK

"I'm on 'The List' but I don't make money. There's some list and how much you're worth on it in box-office terms. Producers look at that because Hollywood movies are made

into play again, her mind jumping by producers, not directors. There are more fingers in the pie.

"People don't look at films anymore, only the celebrities in it. They don't talk about what the language represents, what the movie is saying. That's why I work with independent directors. They're making movies without a studio. They're writing films to be made cheaply. It's rich, character-based stuff. In Hollywood movies, people don't lose their cool any more."

Citing the passion of Douglas Sirk's melodramas as an influence in particular on her own play Dumb in Love, which she wrote five years ago - Posey is about to show the mainstream just how to drop the façade. Forthcoming is another Hal Hartley part, her largest yet for him. as the bitchy slut sister in Henry Fool. Akin to the white trash she perfected in The Daytrippers, it's not really a step forward, more a culmination of all her bit parts.

More important, though perhaps disappointing, is her role as Tom Hanks's girlfriend in Nora Ephron's romantic comedy You Got Mail, which also features Meg Ryan. In this e-mail love story Posey's appearance is brief (it took only nine days to shoot) but will doubtless mark her longawaited acceptance by Hollywood.

Dropped on the cutting room floor from Sleepless In Seattle, and beaten by Sandra Bullock and Renee Zellweger for roles in Speed and Jerry Maguire, the Indie Queen may yet reign in Tinseltown.

'The Daytrippers', from 24 July

DOUBLE BILL

GREG MOTTOLA, DIRECTOR OF 'THE DAYTRIPPERS' TALKS ABOUT HIS IDEAL CINEMATIC PAIRING

> IL BIDONE (DIR: FREDERICO FELLINI, 1955) CRIMES AND MISDEMEANOURS (DIR: WOODY ALLEN, 1989)

FIRST, THERE is a film-maker connection - Woody Allen is a huge fan of Frederico Fellini's. Secondly, both

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movies focus on criminal behaviour from film makers who are not exactly known for making crime movies. Thirdly, both films are black comedies that touch on the theme of moral relativism and centre around characters who have committed a cardinal sin.

Il Bidone focuses on a group of conmen in post-war Rome who carry out a series of unscrupulous scams on people. One disturbing scene sees the gang posing as members of a local housing lottery board collecting money from the poor and homeless.

Another scene sees the gang dressed as priests using religion to relieve a devout Catholic farmer of his land.

In Crimes and Misdemeanors. Martin Landau plays a wealthy

doctor who is cheating on his wife with his lover Angelica Houston. When Landau decides to end the affair, Houston threatens to tell his wife. Landau is forced to kill

Instead of being ravaged by guilt, Landau comes to terms with his wrongdoing and moves on with his life

Meanwhile, Allen. who plays a documentary film-maker in the film, is having his own battle with inner demons; should he continue to make documentary films for little profit, or sell out and become a fat-cat TV producer?

Allen opts to stick with the documentary film-making. But he soon discovers that his integrity brings him nothing but loneliness

and rejection. He is left wondering

whether crime does, in fact, pay. In Il Bidone the main character suffers for his sins. After seeing a young, crippled girl in desperate need of hospital care he decides to renounce his way of life - but it is too late.

Fellini observes that by reawakening your conscience, you lay yourself open to pain.

Both films take a harsh look at life through a comedy lens (which always wins points with me) and centre around compelling storylines that look at the struggle between faith and moral responsibility.

> INTERVIEWBY JENNIFER RODGER





FREE outdoor film spectacular - cinema under the stars

Jurassic Park, The Full Monty, The Fifth Element

Big Wednesday, Independence Day, Quadrophenia

Time Bandits, Twelve Monkeys and Brazil



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Believe everything you see on TV

The Truman Show, this summer's big movie hit in America, paints a disturbing portrait of life as a 24-hour docu-soap. By Jeff Dawson

AMID THE pastel gables of Seahaven, a small-town utopia right out of a Norman Rockwell painting, where the sun beams and the burghers smile, Truman Burbank pecks the cheek of his Stepford Wife and heads for the office, just as he does every day.

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Given Truman's contentment there would seem to be little wrong with this snapshot of backwater miss. Only there is. It's all fake - the town is a giant studio set, his family and friends all hired actors, and poor old Truman a bumbling innocent whose every move since birth has been filmed secretly, fly-on-the-wall. and broadcast live and unedited, 24 hours a day, for the delectation of a global audience. "On the Air, Unaware," as the tag-line has it.

Welcome to The Truman Show, this summer's hit movie in the

'If the Internet can give Bus live birth then LA news stations will give a live shotgun suicide'

States, and a safe bet to waltz off with the silverware when Hollywood starts dishing it out in the New Year

The metaphors in The Truman Show abound - from the omniscient TV director Christof (Ed Harris) who stomps about proclaiming himself Truman's "creator", to the predestinarian nature of Truman's existence (even the most trivial of encounters is totally orchestrated.

right down to product placement). All of which will be pored over in reat detail with the film's UK release on 23 October, and is good reason why it is worthy of the accolades.

In fact, the film's director Peter Weir, the Australian romantic who gave us Gallipoli and Green Card, should win a big gong straight off for the extraordinary feat of reining in his star - the gurning Jim Carrey for the film's winning, tragi-comic performance.

True, the lab-rat set-up may not be

er and Westworld, for example, touched on similar themes (indeed Paramount are currently the subject of a separate plagiarism lawsuit. But the difference here is that Truman -True Man - is not a witting participant.

"I was getting sick of trying to exolain it, so I posed a riddle," says Weir, approaching the film's premise somewhat more laterally. "How is it possible for man to be in prison and yet have no idea that he is? Answer: That he was born in prison."

But there is a bigger question. A zeitgeist thing. In terms of televisual entertainment, just how far away from reality is The Truman Show?

"There's a generation of younger people who've been exposed from the cradle to a massive bombardment of images," explains Weir. *Commercials are now very powerful. They're selling lifestyles to the young, the concept of cool, so that round the world you find young kids who move and talk like these advertisements.

"The very fabric of reality has been disturbed in the Western world, and so that what's real and unreal is becoming increasingly confused. Films are beginning to reflect that. Life's a movie. Hey, nothing's real! Everything's for sale. These are strange times."

The medium, as the media guru Marshall McLuhan declared, is the message. It is indiscreet enough to bestow instant celebrity on, say, a woman whose chief attribute is an inability to drive; and powerful as a means of democratic acquiescence. as in the case of March's Iraqi showdown, when America's "window of opportunity" for military intervention was defined not by strategic initiatives, but by the ongoing Winter Olympics, which would have deterred the 184 million American viewers who tuned in to watch "Gulf War 1" from enjoying the sequel.

If the Internet can give us a live birth, then eight LA news stations will give you a live shotgun suicide, interrupting early evening kiddies' programmes - as they did on 30 April - to show Daniel Jones, a 40-yearold HIV patient, pull out a 12-bore and despatch his brains skyward.



Jim Carrey gives a suitably restrained performance as the lab-rat character in The Trumon Show

away with American sensationalism, no matter how global the village.

We are still a nation of curtaintwitchers and back-fence gossips," says Andrew Collins, the TV critic and scriptwriter of Channel 5's Family Affairs. "We would much rather somehting happening next door than in Hollywood."

Which would at least explain why British controversy amounts to whether three men taking a dump on The Drop Dead Show makes for appropriate viewing. And something far more in line with the notion that, despite its ability to showcase other arts. TV works best in its unique way by showing real life at its most familiar

"It's a safer bet for broadcasters to put on a 13-week show about some people who work in hotel in Liverpool," adds Collins, citing the comvideo shop as to why terrestrial channels have turned their backs on scripted drama. "It's cheaper, easier to make, and likely to be more cost-effective.

'You'll get more viewers and they will watch it every week like a soap. They won't think, Oh, I've seen the first episode, I'm not watching that again."

The advent of the Camcorder effectively liberated the art of filmmaking from the elite enabling just about anybody to send Jeremy Beadle a 10-second short about Auntie Beryl falling into a swimming pool/wedding cake. Certainly, there has been no shortage of budding programme-makers. And who needs to write the stuff?

According to Christine Geraghty, senior lecturer in media & communications at Goldsmith's College, real

"The docu-soaps have a soap opera setting, where the locale is as important as the story," she says.

"Get the location right and you've got your characters. In soaps, the location and the characters are more important than the individual story lines, and I think that's why

'The advent of the Camcorder effectively liberated the the art of film-making'

things like Hotel and Driving School have been so successful."

Thus recent pledges by the BBC that they will be limiting the production of similar fare in future, are irlikely that there will be as many more programmes of this type as they are people willing to provide scenarios. If you can already be born, eat, drink, have sex, work, defecate and die for the televisual public, what is left but

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to plug those little gaps in between? Indeed, on the Internet, websites have been cropping up, inviting people to peep into the private little worlds of their creators. The most well-known, JenniCAM, for example. (www.jennicam.org), has been up and running for two years, with the software designer Jennifer Ringley allowing people to glimpse life through a camera on the wall of her student digs in Pennsylvania.

All that is left is to turn the camers on someone who does not know they are being filmed.

Hence the popularity of the soap

with the advent of digital TV make it sitcoms such as Seinfeld and Friends (where you simply hang out in someone's apartment). And the proliferation of that voyeuristic phenomenon the docu-soap - Driving School, The Cruise, The Tourist Trap, Clampers, Lakesiders - which

has put all human life into a fishbowl. "It will happen," says Collins. "Andy Warhol's over-used quote says everyone can be famous for 15 minutes. Now it's likely that everybody will be famous for about 30 minutes every Tuesday for 13 weeks."

Weir throws a wry smile. "Friends have asked me what my movie's about, and I've replied that it's about a television show, " he says.

"What? Is this something already on?" he adds, affecting the voice of an inquiring friend.

"I tell them, no, it's a fiction..." 'The Truman Show' is released in

Boom-time for Europe's new Hollywood

Known mainly for banking, bureaucracy and boredom, Luxembourg is increasingly a magnet for glamorous names from the movie world. Pierre Reyland finds out why Peter Greenaway chose to shoot his last two films in Europe's smallest state

ON THE set of Peter Greenaway's reason for coming to Luxembourg new movie Eight-and-a-Half has more to do with easy money than Women, the 56-year-old director sits comfortably amid the luscious and perfectly symmetrical interior of a pragmatic, practical situation," he reconstructed Swiss château. A says. "So the fact that we're in Luxgroup of stunningly beautiful Japan embourg is entirely to do with the ese women in starched white kimmos walk quietly past, returning to that 25 per cent of our budget is their dressing-rooms after another

day's filming. It's nearly the end of Greenaway's seven-week shoot in Luxembourg and, as the co-producer Jimmy de Brabant tells me, everything has gone smoothly.

"It's almost worrying", he says.
"We haven't had the slightest problem - it's amazing. It's the first production where nothing serious has happened."

Perhaps this lack of problems is because the new Greenaway movie. like his last, The Pillow Book. has grgely been shot in Luxembourg, a country where, according to de Brabant, "everything is a little easier than elsewhere".

Greenaway assures me that the

with an easy mind. "You're a Luxembourgeois, and you know it's a very tax incentives - I think it works out saved by working here."

To attract the likes of Greenaway and other famous directors, the Luxembourg government set up a lucrative tax incentive scheme 10 years ago. This allows foreign film producers to claim back as much as a quarter of the money they spend during production in the country. provided they team up with a local co-producer and shoot at least 40 per cent of the movie in Luxembourg.

"We're not only giving this tax advantage because we have so much money in our treasury," explains Guy Manderscheid, of the state's media department, "but because we want to build up an infrastructure and develop a film industry here in Luxembourg."

The scheme seems to have worked. Two years ago Anthony Waller came to Luxembourg to shoot the horror blockbuster An American Werewolf in Paris. Last year the British director Chris Roberts brought the Oscar-winning set designer Peter Lamont (of Titanic fame) to Luxembourg to shoot the \$30m science fiction epic Wing Commander

And this year, Peter Greenaway

Not surprisingly, Luxembourg's film industry is booming. "We only notice increases - not just in the number of applications from foreign producers. but also in the budgets involved. We now have six or seven multi-million-dollar productions in the pipeline," Manderscheid says.

Eighteen production companies have sprung up in the country over the last few years, and 400 people are permanently employed in the

Paul Thilges, president of the Luxembourg Producers' Association, says that Luxembourgers have



Peter Greenaway

much to be excited about: "It's known in Europe and even overseas now that something is possible in Luxembourg, and we get more and more projects. All the producers here talk about it." he says.

But it isn't just the tax savings that make Luxembourg so attractive. been here twice. Peter enjoys the calm part of Luxembourg. It's much more hectic shooting in larger cities. such as Paris and London. Here it's easy to get permission, and people don't ask for silly amounts of money to block the roads or gain access."

Despite its tiny size - Luxembourg has a population of only 400,000 - the country offers an attractive choice of natural film scenery. The postcard prettiness of the historic capital. Luxembourg Ville, for instance, with its smooth exteriors and expensively renovated old buildings, is a dream come true for many film directors.

"It has a distinctively European feel," says Thilges. "You can shoot any major European city here."

And Luxembourg's countryside, too, with its hilly lake district in the north and its green and pleasant valleys in the south, features regularly in many European and US films and TV programmes.

"It's a very attractive place. Few

wonderful locations. The new Greenaway movie is set near a lake in Geneva, Switzerland. So we found many areas in Luxembourg

Luxembourg's film industry may be growing fast, but native technicians and crew members are still somewhat thin on the ground.

"They say that in Luxembourg there's only one of everything; there's no competition, total monopoly," says Greenaway. "We have a man here who looks after pigs. There's only one man in Luxembourg who looks after pigs - so we have to use him."

But a growing number of Luxembourgers, most of whom speak at least four languages, are keen to train in the film industry and take advantage of the job opportunities it provides. Insiders think that when it comes to gaining hands-on experience, Luxembourg is a perfect place to start.

"It's a small place, everybody people know how beautiful it is," de knows everybody, so it's easy to get

As de Brabant explains: "Having Brabant says. "You have the most your first job", says Romain Schroeder, of the Carousel Picture Company. "In countries such as England and France, it takes you 10 years to get up to a certain level. Here, if you're good at what you're doing, after a year you can reach a level where you earn a decent amount of money and have an ex-

citing job." Most people would not easily associate Luxembourg with the charisma and glamour of the international movie industry. Home to 230 banks and a number of European Union institutions, the EU's smallest and richest member state is often dismissed as a boring financial and bureaucratic centre, whose population meekly emoys the material comforts resulting from minimal unemployment and living standards that are among the highest in the world.

But the birth of Luxembourg's film industry proves that, behind the façade of ordinariness, Luxembourg is enjoying an explosion of creativity that is giving the country some cosmopolitan appeal at last.

THE OMNIPRESENT Leonardo Di-Caprio may finally have settled on his next film. Having been associated at various points with Spike Lee's Son of Sam project, the snappily entitled Bombshell: The Secret Story of America's Unknown Atomic Spy Conspiracy and, notoriously, the big screen adaptation of American Psycho, the 23-year-old is to star in the film version of Alex Garland's cult novel The Beach, ac-

cording to Variety magazine. The Beach will be produced by the Trainspotting trio - Danny Boyle, Andrew MacDonald and Danny Hodge – who will doubtless be hoping to put the commercial failure of A Life Less Ordinary behind them with the world's biggest male

star on board. Garland's novel is on the age-old theme of paradise lost, updated for

the travelling generation, taking as its location the tourist trails of the Far East. DiCaprio will probably play the central character. Richard. whose adolescent obsessions - he is a video game addict and Vietnam movie buff - will suit the actor who made his name playing quirky teenagers in What's Eating Gilbert Grape and This Boy's Life.

UNTIL WINONA Ryder finally gets the role she was born to play - a Muppet movie biopic of Joan of Arc - she will have to put up with the tedious sci-fi/fantasy fare that she seems to have got herself involved with lately. Ryder did not do much more than fret at Sigourney Weaver's side in Alien: Resurrection so let us hope she gets to mix it a bit more with her next

RUSHES

MIKE HIGGINS

supernatural foe: Satan (yes, really). In Lost Souls, she is to star as a reformed seminary teacher who has to convince a lawyer that a conspiracy with which he is involved is on the point of releasing Satan from hell. At least it will all look nice: the Schindler's List cinematographer Janusz Kaminski will make his directorial debut with the film.

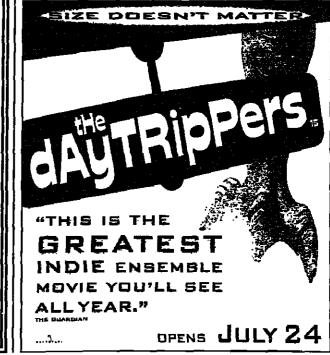
ACCORDING TO Variety. Ralph Fignnes may be about to resume his lit-film pin-up status, if he successfully negotiates to star in a film version of Graham Greene's

The End of the Affair. Oscar and Lucinda failed to repeat the wild success of The English Fatient. but the word is that Neil Jordan's adaptation will, ahem, be laying

the sex on with a trowel. On the surface, the story bears more than a passing resemblance to the ultra-successful Patient. It is set in London during the Blitz, when a married woman begins an affair with her husband's good friend, a writer. When the writer is injured during a bombing raid, his lover is so overcome by guilt that she prays to God to save him. In exchange for the Almighty's divine intervention, she ends the affair and returns to her husband. But, in typical love-story fashion, the two cannot stay apart.

Production is likely to begin in England early next year.





Small enough to take on Godzilla

Blockbusters are getting longer and longer. So it was with some relief that Matthew Sweet arrived at the Vila do Conde short film festival

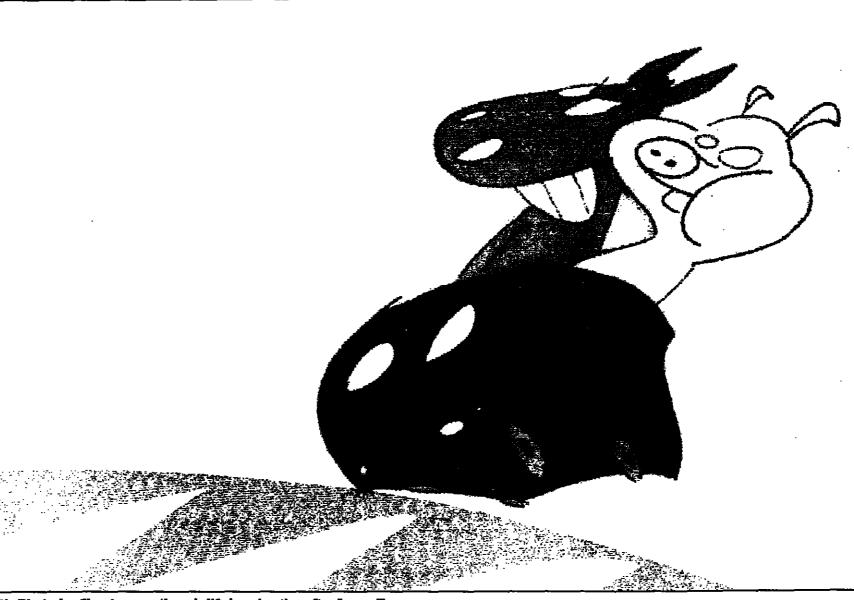
TO THE dismay of overworked film critics everywhere. Hollywood blockbusters are getting longer all the time. Roland Emmerich's remake of Godzilla has a running time of 138 minutes - which means that if you unspooled the movie from its reels, it would be about 13,400 feet longer than its gargantuan star As the lizard's PR boys say. size does matter. Titanic, on the other hand, exceeds the length of its eponymous ship by a massive 16,631 feet - and its spectacular performance at the box office means that if James Cameron wanted to make a movie twice that long, nobody would have the nerve to say no to him.

Some less egomaniacal film-makers, however, still believe that short is beautiful. Last week, in a pretty seaside town outside the Portuguese city of Oporto, practitioners and fans of short movie-making gathered to celebrate the art of cinematic brevity. For the past six years, the Vila do Conde International Short Film Festival has dedicated itself to promoting one-, two- and three-reel films. It screens new shorts from all over the world, and compiles retrospectives of rare and classic works. During this time, it has grown from being an adjunct of a local student film club, to one of the most important festivals of its kind in the world. This year, over 1,100 films were submitted for the International Competition, 200 more than any previous year. So why, you may be wondering, do we never get to see them in this country?

In the days of silent cinema, every film was a short film. Pithy entertainments, such as the Lumière Brothers' Arrival of a Train at Ciotat Station, needed only a few seconds to make their point. At the start of the 1900s, the length of the average movie was standardised to one 10-minute reel, and this remained the industry norm until the international success of lengthier European films such as Queen Elizabeth (1912) fuelled the trend towards full-length features. By 1918, the short had been demoted to warm-up duty for longer, grander movies. For a while it remained popular for comedy and news, but by the Fifties, the success of the double feature had all but driven the short subject from mainstream movie theatres in Europe and America.

Today, the places where a widespread culture of short-watching thrives are few and far between - as the directors and critics gathered at Vila do Conde are ready to concede. Karl Nussbaum is a founder member of Film Crash, a New York-based artistic collective that showcases new, short movies. "It's never a money-making venture," he explains. "Whenever Film Crash show programmes of short films, it's very time-consuming to prepare, and there's very little financial return."

The Slovenian film-maker Maja Weiss recalls how "you used to be able to see a short before every feature in cinemas all over the world. But there are no short films in the



'Pic Pic Andre Show' proves there is life in animation after Loony Tunes

commercial cinema any more. I've only ever seen two shorts programmed with a feature film, and they were both in Berlin."

Even in countries where cinemas are legally required to accompany their features with a short, distributors tend to ignore new and creative work. In India, home of the world's most prolific film industry, this is the case.

"The shorts they show are not very interesting," admits Uma da Cuhna, an Indian cinema critic and casting director. "Most of them are government propaganda films. I don't blame people for not being interested in them."

However, despite this story of popular decline, short film-making is far from being a dying art. Although only six short films enjoyed national release in the UK last year, they continue to be made at a great rate. 175 new British shorts were considered for selection at Vila do Conde, more than from any other country.

Asif Kapadia is director of The Sheep Thief, an exquisite British short that has picked up prizes at several European film festivals: "When I go to Europe I come back really enthusiastic about making short films," he says. "But after 10 minutes in London I'm really depressed because no one is really interested in them. It's ironic because I'm sure that British films are highly thought of in Europe. British films always do really well at European festivals." The BBC, Asif adds, have funded hundreds of short films in recent years, which languish unshown in their archives.

In the world's less affluent nations. however, short films enjoy support beyond the festival audience. It may be one of the world's poorest countries, but Burkina Faso has a thriving short film industry. The capital city of Ouagadougou plays host each year to Fespaco, a huge market for shorts and features from Africa and the Arab world. This year, a special programme at Vila do Conde celebrated the work of short film-makers of the southern hemisphere. and their selection included films from

'I make short films because it is possible to finance them

Tunisia, Chad, Burkina Faso and Mozam-

bique - countries that in Britain we gen-

yourself. I just take little bits of crap and try to turn them into something grand'

erally suppose are too poor to afford film production of any sort.

Some of the most surprising work on offer at the festival originated from those countries not best known for the productivity of their movie industries. The sole Azerbaijani entry, All for the Best, is an eccentric, engaging black comedy about a squad of soldiers charged with returning possibilities of gags involving sticks of the dead bodies of casualties from the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict back to their families. Shot in dusty monochrome, Vagif Mustafayev's satire on nationalism and military bureaucracy has many oddball jokes that I couldn't begin to understand. Aubier, Pic Pic and Andre are a pig-and-

But you do not need to be from Baku to horse team who employ breakneck velocity enjoy its peculiar sense of fun, or the lead's unnerving resemblance to Peter Sellers.

The prize-giving, however, was dominated by European efforts. First prize in the International Competition went to My Country, a blissfully funny 10 minutes from the Serbian director Milos Radovic - and possibly the only film in cinema history in which a director has been able to get a carthorse to look both shifty and evasive on cue. A Danish entry, Jay Rosenblatt's Human Remains, picked up a well deserved Documentary Prize. A quietly unnerving series of biographical sketches of Hilter, Stalin, Mao, Franco and Mussolini, it uses well chosen archive footage to back discomfitingly chatty first-person narratives about the private lives of the great dictators.

The standard of the animation was extremely high. Maire Paccou's Un Jour used striking monochrome images - scored like woodcuts - to illustrate her touching magic realist parable about female loneliness. Steve Moore's Redux Red Riding Hood skipped off with the Audience Prize with its smart sequel to the Grimm brothers' tale - in which the wolf constructs a time machine to correct the blunders of the past. And if you thought that Bugs possibilities of gags involving sticks of dynamite and extreme violence, then the Pic Pic Andre Show 'le deuxième' was proof that there was life in the concept after Loony Tunes. Created by the Belgian animators Vincent Patar and Stephanie

TEN GREAT SHORT FILMS



Arrival of a Train at Ciotat Station (Lumière Brothers, 1895) On the bill at the first-ever public cinema screening on 28 December 1895 at the Grand Café on the Boulevard des Capucines, Paris. Its footage of a train pulling into the station was of such unprecedented reality that most of the audience ran screaming from the room.

A Trip to the Moon (George. Melies, 1902) A witty adaptation of the Jules Verne novel. Its image of a lunar rocket ploughing into the eye of the Man in the Moon is still one of

cimema's most enduring images.

Un Chien Andalou (above) (Luis Buñuel, 1928) The product of an exchange of dreams and fantasies with Salvador Dali, Bunuel's masterpiece is a riot of eyeballs, razor blades, and human hands

devoured by ants.

The Music Box (Hal Roach, 1932) Two delivery men attempt to drag a piano up a huge flight of steps: Laurel and Hardy's exemplary exercise in comic timing.

Popeye the Sailor meets Sinbad the Sailor (Dave Fleischer, 1936) Popeye and his crew alight on an island occupied by the fearsome Sinbad (uncannily similar to Bluto, of course) and his army of peculiar creatures.

The Night Mail (Basil Wright, Harry Watt, 1936) Wright and Watt's rhythmic documentary narrates the progress of a letter from one end of the country to the other.

What's Opera, Doc? (Chuck Jones, 1957) Director Chuck Jones, composer Richard Wagner and Bugs Bunny are a formidable combination in this hare-brained animation.

Why Man Creates (Saul Bass, Saul Bass won an Oscar for this

meditative documentary on the human creative process.

Dekalog (Krzysztof Kieslowski, A series of short films using the Ten Commandments to

Denko (Mohamed Camara, 1992) Guinean director Camara transfers Oedipus to Africa.

Independent Hearts

Assessing :

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investigate contemporary Poland.

THE CHARTS

THE LATEST asteroid-on-collision-course-for-the-earth drama. Armageddon (starring Bruce Willis, right) tops US Box Office takings, netting \$58m in its first seven days. Not for a bad week's work, but there have been mutterings across The Pond. For starters, that's 25 per cent down on Men in Block's takings last year, b, do we really need another space-debris-disaster flick so soon after Deep Impact? and c. it's a real turkey! You can judge for yourselves from 7 August.

US BOX OFFICE

	TITLE	SCREENS	3-DAY TAXIN
1	Armageddon	3127	\$36,089,97
2		2871	\$19,675,65
3	Melan	2953	\$11.476.52
4	Out of Sight	2112	\$6,578,475
5	The X-Files	2602	\$6,253,038
6	The Truman Show	2756	\$6.008,506
7	Six Days, Seven Nights	2479	\$5.805.699
8	A Perfect Murder	2076	\$3,335,890
9	Hope Floats	1248	\$1,603,563
10	The Horse Whisperer	1048	\$1,341,274

UK BOX OFFICE

	TITLE	SCREENS	3-DAY TAKIN
1	Six Days, Seven Nights	402	£706.928
2	Grease	243	£598.631
3	The Wedding Singer	286	£503.759
4	City of Angels	303	£340.121
5	Sliding Doors	222	£216,812
6	Mad City	151	£209.272
7	Mimic	205	£161.377
8	The Object of My Affection	196	£161.364
9	Deep Impact	130	£121,766
10	Mousehunt	191	£86.486
			_

LONDON BOX OFFICE

i	1			
į	ļ	TITLE	SCREENS	WEEK'S TAXIN
	1	Six Days, Seven Nights	10	£52,379
1	2	Love and Death in Long Island	d 9	£40.448
	3	City of Angels	10	£37,226
ı	4	Mad City	5	Σ34,402
Į	5	Grease	6	£31.878
1	6	The Object of My Affection	9	£25,758
	7	The Wedding Singer	7	£25,129
Ì	8	Sliding Doors	4	£23,403
1	9	The Big Lebowski	5	E15,764
1	10	Sling Blade	5	£12,842
1		-		



SPANISH ROY OFFICE

	STANISH BOY OLLICE		
	TITLE	SCREENS	3-DAY TAKING
1	The Object of My Affection	131	US\$636,192
2	Quest for Camelot	163	\$437.301
3	Mr Magoo	150	S422.669
4	Deep Impact	162	\$340.091
5	Twilight	87	\$325,460
6	The Gingerbread Man	94	\$266,900
7	The Big Lebowski	77	\$171,440
8	American Werewolf In Paris	77	\$145.305
9	The Proposition	50	\$114,686
10	Switchback	74	\$106.777

AUSTRALIAN BOX OFFICE			
	TITLE	SCREENS	3-DAY TAKINGS
1	Dr Dolittie	234	US\$3.621,499
2	Deep Impact	247	\$1,532,481
3	Six Days, Seven Nights	134	\$951,295
4	Godzilla	224	5831,216
5	Grease	133	\$707,464
6	Anastasia	187	S623,532
7	The Big Hit	93	\$432,592
8	The Horse Whisperer	173	\$423,611
9	The Little Mermaid	165	\$336,208
10	Kundun	22	\$249,660

CLASSIFIED Legal Notices

The insolvency Act 1986 ALLPORT ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH LIMITED NOTICE IS HERBY CIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of the Civilians of the above named Company will be held at the Royal Scot Hotel. Kings Cross Read, London WCLIA 90T on Juneday 21st July 1998 at 10 18 am for the position of the company's allows, together with a fet of credents of the containing and the Selection of the company and the selection of the com

tigether with a fixt of creditors of the conspany, and the estimated amount of the or claims. Indi before them, and for the purpose, it thought fix of nomina-ing a foundation for impulsation and of aquanting a foundation committee. Resolutions to be taken at the meeting may include a Scientific to the terms on which the foundation is to be remainded, and the meeting may receive information about on the called sport to approve the costs of preparing the statement of allows and courseing.

todge a fin statement of account and smiles claiming percentify they must also valums a pupy which must be lodged not late than 12.00 noon on the lavaness day prevening the meet-ing at 1 Soure 16d, London EC 1A 25N Unless they surgester their occurry, secured certains, at they wish to sole at the nectron, must also lodge told details of their security and in animal value. details of their security and its assessed value, white it also given pursuant to Section 981/84 of the Involveory Act 1986, that Colin George Wiverson and Peter Anthony Lawrence of Moore Simphens Booth White, I Sopar IIII, London ECIA 25N are qualified to act as insolvency Practitioners in relation to the above renegating, and will lumish conducts to concerning, the above company a stage as they that actionably require.

Objections

David the 8th July 1998

By Only of the Roard

ANTHONY 14(2) (1755, Secretary

MIDLANDS BUILDING COMPANY LIMITED

mertor: BY ONTER OF THE BELL OF F O HADDOCK Proving Defect totals, front

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NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR NEW JUSTICES LICENCE LICENSING ACT 1964 COURT: The Magistrates' Cour HEARING DATE/TIME:

Wednesday 12 August 1998 at 10am PREMISES: BhS. Trafford Centr Trafford Park, Manchester APPLACANT; David Patrick Butler ADDRESS: 63 Finshury Road. Reddish, Stockport TRADE OR CALLING:

Sales Manager

JAM NOTICE that the Applican miterisk to apple at the Licensing Sessions for the said Dission to be held at the place date and time shown also be not to provise and gant to him of a fustion. License authorized him to self to tetad mitoratine himself and days retroes.

> PAISNER & CO thannen House, 154 (hert Steine) Lundon EC4A 2DQ fortune and butterned being the transfer the transfer that the transfer transfer

HARE, MORRIS DERES HARE, otherwise MAURICE MARE, late of Leyton, London E10, died there on 18th March 1998 (Estate about \$15,000) KING KENNETH KING of Stread, Glonesdership dishere on 3rd March 1996 (Estate ahout 28,800) LAZITCH, SVETOZAR LAZITCH late of Hackney, London LCT died there on 23th April 1995 (Estate about \$24,000)

STERRINGS, STANLEY RICHARD STERRINGS WILSON, ERNEST (FOR ACE PETER WILSON late of Lincoln, deed there on 4th July 1947 (Estate about \$14,000)

The widow widowe and kin of the above named are requested to apply to the freeding Swheth (B.V. Queen Aures et Burnbay, 28 Breadway, London SWH 918, Luling which the freeding Swheth of the Ages to submit to the coate

and eye-watering inventiveness as they

slam each other into doors and abuse each

was Jan Pinkava's Geri's Gome, an

accomplished but rather charmless

computer-generated sketch about an

octogenarian chess player so determined

to win that he even cheats when he plays

against himself. A British entry, The Chain,

a satire on war and greed by the animator

Phil Mullov, was given an honourable men-

tion by the jury. "I make short films because it's possible to finance them

yourself," he explains. "So when you've got

unfashionable opinions, your voice isn't

silenced by your dependence on other

people for funding. I just take little bits of

crap and try to turn them into something

grand." He is modest about his achieve-

ments: "Not everyone likes my work. I've

been at screenings where half the audience

are booing and the other half are cheering.

cheering."
It is this kind of response that keeps film-

makers such as Mulloy producing films for

the festival circuit, even when distributors

remain largely uninterested in bringing

them to the attention of a wider public. "We

should stop worrying that short films aren't getting a wide release," argues Asif

Kapadia. "There are plenty of shorts being

screened at festivals, and maybe that's good

enough. Maybe that's the proper home for

them." And for the foreseeable future, Vila

do Conde will be providing short cinema

with one of its more attractive homes.

Mystifyingly, the winner of this section

other with electrodes.

COMPAIN ON HE MPHREY. JULY GOODWAY OBLING JEAN GOODWAY ON HOMPHRE Winne Life of Nethington, deel there on 14th April 1977.

LIWELL CLARKET EVELYN LOWELL SHASTER Iste of Portech al. North Someter dued then on 18th February 1987 (Exists about Charry) O'DRISCOLL, WILLIAM
O'DRISCOLL
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their on or about 21st February 1986
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SHORT FILLIS

FAST TRACK

GRADUATING TO THE WORLD OF WORK

The Derek Draper affair revealed young men in powerful positions. But how did they get there? By Linus Gregoriadis

Lobbying isn't a dirty word

THE NEGATIVE publicity engulfing the world of lobbying will do little to deter the growing numbers of students who are intent on joining the industry, and it is not difficult to

If the vast quantity of newsprint devoted to Derek Draper and his connections with the Labour Party has shown anything, it is that "public affairs consultants" can earn a lucrative livelihood deep in the nation's power base. And far from this being a sinister profession full of Machiavellian figures who exploit their contacts, lobbyists argue that what they offer is a valuable and legitimate service.

Michael Burrell, managing director of Westminster Strategy, one of the country's leading lobbying firms, believes that the industry is a vital cog in the wheel of democracy. Like many in his vocation, he regards himself as a strategic adviser who can provide companies with political expertise: "Lobbying is absolutely part of a democratic process. In a free society, people have a right to make a case to the Government. We advise clients about how to make that case. In a free society, if you can pay for a lawyer and an accountant, it seems strange if you can't have professional guidance if you are threatened by something the Government is proposing.

"I'm very proud of the role people in my company and others play in trying to bridge the gap between business and Government. To many people, Westminster and Government are a secret maze. Lobbying is a genuine service to people which offers a guide through that maze. There is nothing remotely improper

For those with aspirations of joining this profession, it is worth chronicling the rise of Derek Draper, the lobbyist who has found himself at the centre of a political storm over the last few weeks. Draper became involved in Lahour politics at Manchester University and went on to land a job as a constituency assistant to Nick Brown, the Labour MP who is now the party's Chief Whip.

He then worked as a researcher for Peter Mandelson (now the Minister without Portfolio) before setting up a Labour Party magazine called Progress. After helping to write The Blair Revolution, he got a lobbying job with a company called Prima.

Though Draper is certainly not the average public affairs consultant, his route into the industry illustrates the importance of contacts and political know-how.

Mr Burrell explains the kind of experience his company is looking for. "It could be someone who has worked as a research assistant for an MP or at a political party's headquarters. It could also be someone with experience in the Civil Service or as a political journalist." Although applicants with experience in other professions are in the strongest position for a lobbying job, there are also opportunities for people fresh out of university, who can expect to start on a salary of between £12-16,000.



Westminster Strategy is one of a number of lobbying firms that take on a limited number of graduates

Mr Burrell says: "The people we are looking for have selected a political course and are interested in politics. They will approach lobbying consultancies and then ask whether they can do work experience during their vacations. We regularly take on

people on that basis. Work experience gives them a feel for whether they want to do this as a career. But it works both ways. It gives the consultancy a feel for whether they have an aptitude for it, and if there is a chance of taking

them on. Peter Dingle, of the Communication Group, says that a job with a have to explain that a lot of the work

public affairs consultancy offers an excellent opportunity to young people who want to pursue their interest in politics within a rewarding vocation. "It's a good follow-on from a degree in politics or public affairs to seeing how politics really works. It puts the

theory into practice." Mr Dingle, the company's managing director of public affairs. is keen to stress the unglamorous nature of the job for someone who is a recent recruit to the industry. "At a fairly young age, people will do very much the bread-and-butter work. Having done two or three years, they will move job and come

into it at a higher level elsewhere. "When a person comes along, you

is basic research and analysis. It is important to play it down. Doing basic research every single morning is hard work, and that is why it is important for the person to be interested in politics."

He adds: "It doesn't pay an awful lot of money but it is an opportunity. I'm sure the pay is in line with

other jobs. Quentin Browell, a director in the public affairs practice at Burson Marsteller, adds: "We look for those who show that they have got the necessary research skills. We also want people who can master a brief quickly. They have to be reasonably articulate, and it is also important that they have an interest in public affairs and a good understanding of how they work."

HOW MICHAEL BURRELL BECAME A LOBBYIST

MICHAEL BURRELL managing director of Westminster Strategy. started as a journalist.

At grammar school, he won a place at Oxford University to study Politics. Philosophy and Economics (PPE), After completing a journalism course in Darlington, he became the funeral correspondent on the Durham Advertiser He says he is indebted to his experience as a reporter, as it taught him shorthand and the importance of

paying attention to detail.

He later moved to the Brighton Evening Argus where he became local government correspondent. At the age of 23, he became a lobby correspondent for Westminster Press, providing the group's regional papers - including the Evening Argus - with political stories from Westminster.

Over the next 10 years, he worked at Westminster, gaining invaluable insight into the workings of Parliament before he was made redundant in 1983.

Mr Burrell, now 48, says: "I couldn't find another job in iournalism but I started applying for jobs in PR consultancies.

He found a job with a public relations firm where he created an arm of the company which specialised in lobbying. Three years later, in 1986, he set up Westminster Strategy. The company now employs 28 people and counts Amnesty International, the British Council, the Premier League and Nissan among its clients.

Age: 34.

History: The ex-deputy prime minister, Michael Heseltine, well-known for his flamboyant, bouffant hairdo and parliamentary theatrics. founded the magazine publishing company in 1964. It launched the opinion-forming Compaign four years later. and has engineered a formula of acquiring successful titles and putting out new marketingbased, medical and specialist interest consumer titles. It is now the UK's largest privately-owned magazine publisher, with a diverse portfolio including PR Week, What Car?, Practical Caravan, Horticulture Week, Management Today and Four Four Two. Most recently, it has expanded into contract publishing and exhibition

Address: Offices are in Ansdell Street, west London, and in Teddington, Middlesex.

Ambience: "Haymarket buzzes with excitement," enthuses a spokeswoman. The open-plan offices are also buzzing with the pressures of deadlines whether weekly, monthly, bimonthly or annual - and there

A-Z OF EMPLOYERS

is an ensuing emphasis on target-driven teamwork and commitment.

Vital statistics: There are around 1,000 employees in a number of different groups: business publications, magazines and exhibitions sectors. Last year's turnover was £100m.

Lifestyle: Trainees on the company's graduate programme are asked to work on various titles during their first two years. The firm encourages its bright young things to get chummy, with staff briefed to organise informal clubs".

Easy to get into? For those with their eyes set on a career in media sales, yes. Last year, 50 graduates were recruited into this department, but wouldbe journalists will be disappointed; the company likes editorial recruits to have served their time on a local paper or have some other journalistic experience. For those who are recruited, personality and



Michael Heseltine

potential are more important than a good degree, although a spokeswoman says Haymarket tends to take more graduates from social sciences and arts disciplines than from the sciences. It is after trainees who can demonstrate "highly developed communication skills" and who possess "humour, tenacity, mental agility and all-round resilience". Those who apply can expect a preliminary telephone

Glittering alumni: Naturally. he of the golden locks (Hezza) and, back in the early days. adland's Maurice Saatchi.

Pay: There is a basic graduate salary of £11.500, with commission potential of up to £430 per month. During the first 18 months of employment, graduates are given four salary reviews, and there is a chance to earn increased commission.

Training: A career development programme is run centrally and locally - through line managers - with an additional development programme for those who follow the management route.

Facilities: There is no canteen. Employees are turfed out to enjoy the delights of "local hostelries", according to its spokeswoman.

Who is the boss? Chairman is Lindsay Masters, a friend of Heseltine and around since the early days. Hezza himself, very much hands-on at Haymarket until he joined Edward Heath's Cabinet in 1970, bought back more shares last year and is the majority shareholder: he is also a non-executive director.

BULLETIN BOARD

THERE IS a crisis in UK management, claims the Institute for Employment Studies. The problem is not lack of potential, but how managers are taught and what and how

Penny Tamkin, a research fellow at the institute and one of the authors of the report Learning to Manage, says: "Organisations spend considerable sums of money training and developing their managers, but still suffer autocratic bullies whose moment in history has gone.

"Worse than this are the far greater numbers of managers who have the potential to be really good but do not seem quite to realise what to do, or who cannot find the time or motivation to do it differently.

These are the managers who do not communicate fully, who lack the confidence, the ability or the empathy to coach people to better performance, who spend too much time expertly doing and too little in the still leaves much to be agreed. front line of expert managing."

MANCHESTER BUSINESS School has teamed up with the Chartered Institute of Marketing to offer marketing and sales managers the opportunity to gain a premier of the Economy - Developing

qualification in just five weekends. The business school claims that the intensive course is the ideal means for busy professionals to gain the institute's internationally recognised postgraduate diploma. The course, aimed at managers with six years' marketing/sales experience, has programmes starting in September and January.

EMPLOYERS WILL have to consult staff and their representatives to agree whether time spent on workrelated activities such as social functions and travelling to meetings comes under working hours, as part of proposed legislation to implement the European Working Time Directive, Antonia McAlindin, a barrister, told the Institute of Personnel and Development and JSB Training Employment Law and Practice conference last week that the directive

A KEY role in the increasing competitiveness of British industry is being attributed to business schools. The Association of Business

Schools says in its report. Pillars

World Class Management Performance, which is to be published on Monday, that the dramatic rise in UK management's performance is one of the most important factors in this rise. The report cites the fact that organisations are increasing the amount of training given to managers and that the objectives of such initiatives are far better defined than they were.

DO YOU want to increase your motivation, jump-start your career, stretch your mind, take control of your life or just rediscover the joy of learning? Of course you do. Then Quantum Learning for Business (Piatkus, £12.99) could be just the book you need. Drawing on the earlier Quantum Learning, by Bobbi DePorter with Mike Hernacki, the book is another addition to the constantly growing pile of self-help texts and, as such, makes use of plenty of neuroscience, psychology and graphics in an effort to teach the reader to be "more confident, effective and successful at

ROGER TRAPP

you have got to work for the next 45 themselves out of bed at some unfor someone else is not an option.

In 1989, Andrew Needham, now 31. Jan Levy, now 28, and a few friends at university in Edinburgh started Student Pages, a services directory with money-off vouchers for students. Needham says: "A friend came across the idea in the States and we thought it had great potential - much more fun than stacking shelves. At the start there was no grand plan - we were just optimists who hoped we could make a little money.'

Student Pages now extends to 26 city editions and has expanded to become a student-specific marketing company, Student Marketing, which turned over £1.8m in 1997/98. Hobsons Publishing, a subsidiary of the Daily Mail group, bought the company in September last year. Needham has remained as group

managing director.

Graduation is crunch time for any student. For many it is the first time their lives are completely in their own hands and they have to decide between relying on their own, relatively unproven abilities and taking

AFTER COLLEGE life, the idea that a safer, more traditional route with an established employer. Needham years is pretty demoralising. There recalls: "I did make a conscious are consolations but, for a few may- choice when I graduated. Lots of erick high-achievers, dragging people were going for their second or third interview with Goldman earthly hour of the morning to work Sachs or whoever, but I hadn't ever applied for any jobs. When I told people about Student Pages they would just switch off - there was quite a lot of pressure not to do it."

In fact, Needham considers that it was this negativity, coupled with his inexperience, which spurred him and Levy on. "I wanted to prove to those people that I could make a success of it. There is also the advantage that you do know nothing there aren't any grey areas because you haven't considered them."

Anyone can spot the entrepreneur on their campus. He or she is the bright spark with 50 ex-Royal Mail bikes, bought for £200 but on sale for a tenner apiece. Or the one promoting the club night in town. Or reading up on real estate in

Dr Peter Hawkins, a specialist at Liverpool's Graduate Into Employment unit, says: "The entrepreneur would set up a stall or a scam of one sort or another, whereas the trad-

itionalist would get a job in a bar." He believes that the type of student likely to establish a business thinks in a completely different way.



Andrew Needham and Jan Levy started their business when they were students in Edinburgh

Their self-awareness and confidence means that they know exactly what they want, what they are good at and what opportunities they can take

Dr Hawkins says: "These individuals are extremely selfreliant. The key factor is that they do not just wait for opportunities to come along - they're very good at creating opportunities and learning experiences.

There is an argument that you could learn these skills - that a latent entrepreneur lurks in us all. But

without the necessary attitude or in- to do it straight after his degree, stayfluences this instinct remains largely undeveloped. "Most 20-yearolds are still pretty raw," says Dr Hawkins. He sees the need to develop an increasing number of "safe" learning opportunities, in universities or as part of work experience placements, where initiative skills can be nurtured.

Mike Bell is one of the founding partners of Geomica, a software development and consultancy business. He wanted to set up his own company but lacked the confidence

ing on instead to do a PhD in com-Bell says: "All the graduate jobs just puter science. He says: "I think the didn't appeal. A lot of my friends extra age and experience were a definite help. only part of a huge system. You end

For a company that now boasts clients such as Scottish Courage, BICC Cables and several major universities, Geomica had an ignominious start. Bell and fellow PhD student Geoff Kendall worked on their first job at night in a bedroom. "To start with we had one PC between the two of us."

Peter Hawkins of Liverpool's

HOW TO BE AN

ENTREPRENEUR

Graduate into Employment unit suggests that you: Lise every opportunity you have to create something out of nothing. **■** Constantly challenge yourself - no one ever made

around watching Countdown. Promote yourself by volunteering for high-profile positions within the Student Union. Find two people who have set up their own businesses, to act as mentors.

their first million sitting

Get a demanding part-time job in a recently founded small business. ■ Be the right kind of person energetic, determined.

resilient and focused.

Hang around with the right sort of people — those who are positive, risk-taking ision builders. Identify a new market Have bags of self belief ■ Network – remember your flatmate's auntie who said she'd be happy to give you. advice at any time? ■ Be prepared to trawl round

all the support groups and. agencies, such as the 🗀 🦠 Prince's Youth Business. Trust and the Training and Enterprise Council See your friendly bank: manager – grants, loans and advice are all available.

their studies they decided to con-

tinue with their embryonic business.

seemed to be in jobs where you're

un thinking things could be done bet-

learn business skills from scratch,

ter, and getting frustrated."

has been the best thing really." Dr Hawkins says that "business leaders learn from their experience rather than sit around waiting for knowledge. They have developed the higher-level skill of learning to learn."

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Working for yourself gives you freedom, excitement and a sense of Beil and his colleagues had to achievement, but it is never going to phoning up people for tips and using be easy. You will almost certainly books. "Small business guides have to put in long hours.

"Tve no regrets," says Bell. "The taught us about VAT and so on. Most time you put in is an investment... of the rest, in my opinion, has all the satisfaction is incredible. been common sense... experience

Your public sector needs you

AROUND TWO-thirds of civil serbig departments of state, but by smaller, semi-autonomous executive agencies. These agencies recruit staff themselves, determining the skills they need, and have a level of flexibility over the working conditions of employees.

This is in stark contrast to the oldstyle Civil Service, under which applicants for even junior positions had to be interviewed by central recruitment boards, with a successful applicant allocated to the department the board considered most appropriate. In those days, it was extremely difficult subsequently to transfer from one government department to another.

Now civil servants receive regular vacancy bulletins, and staff can apply for promotion to another department or executive agency.

There is little centralised control

today over how individual departments and agencies within the Civil Service operate. The Cabinet Office does not record how many of the 138 executive agencies are responsible for their own staff recruitment, adding that this is determined by the contractual relationship between an agency and its sponsoring department. In a small survey of a cruits about 50 new employees a

Careers in the public service don't have to involve entering the Kafkaesque world of Whitehall. By Paul Gosling

cross-section of executive agencies. The Independent found that they all conducted their own recruitment.

Even inside some agencies there is a large level of devolved decision making. The Benefits Agency employs more than 70,000 staff and is easily the largest executive agency. Most of its staff recruitment decisions are taken by local managers. The type of staff needed and the qualifications required are determined at local office level. Most vacancies are for low-skilled clerical jobs and few recruits are graduates.

Its sister organisation, the Contributions Agency, oversees the collection of national insurance payments, and employs 8,000 staff, most of whom are clerical staff based in its central office in Newcastle. There are, though, opportunities for graduates as managers and inspectors in its offices.

Other agencies, while mostly recruiting non-graduates for general clerical jobs, also take on a minority of graduates. The Public Records Office (PRO), which has 450 staff, reyear, of which about a dozen will be graduates. Anne Crawford, the PRO's spokeswoman, says: "We employ a wide range of staff, ranging from highly qualified academics to the people who take documents

off the shelf. We also recruit grad-

uates for specialist roles such as

Most vacancies are for low-skilled clerical jobs and few recruits are graduates.

finance and personnel. For our reader service advice we look for history graduates, particularly for people with doctorates, who studied public records and used public records for their doctorates. There is a career structure within the office, and people can go on to director level if they are good enough."

The Defence Establishment Restress that job opportunities are few

search Agency (Dera) is another of the large executive agencies, with about 12,000 staff, with one of the highest proportions of graduates. It recruits about 1,000 new staff a year, including 300 to 400 new or nearly new science graduates who will form the basis of its research and development workforce of the future. Traditionally Dera has developed weapons for the Ministry of Defence. but more of its focus now is on transferring military technology to civilian uses, and winning customers

Tony Burke, Dera's personnel manager, says: "As well as our graduate entrants we take on some chartered engineers and scientists in mid-career for project management roles. Our structure is a pyramid, and organisations are becoming flatter, so we are trying to reward personal worth to the business, and people can progress quite reasonably in the same job. There are career development pro-grammes in place for staff."

from the private sector.

Other specialist agencies, though,

and far between. The Ordnance complement of cartographers and surveyors, and will recruit only small numbers of extra employees for one-off exercises. It does occasionally take on new staff for IT, marketing and personnel jobs.

An alternative for a few is the faststream programme for graduates, run by the Cabinet Office on behalf of all government departments, but this does not feed into the executive agencies. In the latest documented programme almost 20,000 top graduates applied for fewer than 500 positions. These were spread across seven disciplines: administration, Inland Revenue, law, economics, statistics, science and engineering, and government communications. Successful applicants will become the future permanent secretaries and other senior mandarins.

The uncomfortable truth, though, is that overall the Civil Service is still going through a long-term restructuring programme that has reduced the number of staff, and has damaged the prospects of graduates to obtain good jobs or achieve promotion once they are employed. The right job is likely to be a fulfilling one. but there are fewer of them around these days.

'My boss keeps bullying me'

HELP DESK

YOUR CAREER PROBLEMS SOLVED BY THE EXPERTS

The problem:

My boss has a reputation for being tough and demanding. He has a go at everyone but recently focused on me. I have been humilioted by him several times in public and each occasion is worse than the last. As a man in a macho industry, I

know everyone thinks that I ought to be able to cope, and so do I. I cannot talk to anyone about this and do my best to avoid my boss. The paradox is that on one occasion when I shouted back, he seemed, if anything, happier. Should I tell him he is making my life miserable, and ask him to be more sensitive?

NAME AND ADDRESS WITHHELD

The solution:

This is a common problem and it is not always men to men; there are a lot of female bullies too. It is important that you keep a diary of the incidents and get people in the office to back you up, then go to personnel This can also be achieved

with a memo, but choose your words carefully, eg "I feel that the working atmosphere is unacceptable", and ensure that you make it clear what he is respected for. When it comes to

approaching your boss, take him aside and tell him that it seems you are not getting on, and that you should go for a drink to discuss any problems. On the other hand, if you

are comfortable with shouting back then that is the way to deal with it. Do it a few times and it may stop altogether. Virginia Ironside

Established patterns of behaviour will not change unless they are dealt with. If you choose to speak directly with your boss, try to use nonblaming language (rehearsing beforehand with a friend) ie "I realise your comments are not personal and you have work pressures; however, I am left feeling humiliated and would like us to find a more constructive way of communicating". Bullying is unacceptable and no one should have to deal with it.

You mention that you cannot talk to anyone. If this is due to any sense of shame, remember that bullying often

indicates insecurity on behalf of the perpetrator, I would . recommend talking things through in confidence with a counsellor to identify the best way forward for you. Lynn Macwhinnie, chair of the British Association of Counselling at Work, Eastlands Court, St Peter's Road, Rugby, Warwickshire CV21 3QP (01788 335617)

The experience is isolating and undermines confidence, but you can take action. 🗀 Confronting a bully may lead to worse victimisation but if you are prepared to take that risk, focus on the behaviour rather than the person, saying

that you find it unacceptable. If you decide against confrontation, approach your personnel department or union and make an informal complaint. If you do not get satisfaction, consider taking out a formal complaint, which your company must

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investigate. Judith Jackson, the Andrea Adams Trust. For further information send on A4 sac to: The Andrea Adams Trust, 24, Derek Avenue, Hove, East Susset BN3 4PF

> COMPILED BY Sarah Barrell

If you have a work problem and want expert advice, write to Carmen Fielding, Fast Track, Features, The Independent, 1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL; for: 0171-293 2182; or email c fielding@ independent co.uk

How to take on men at football and win

RACHEL ANDERSON, 41, became Britain's only licensed female football agent seven years ago when West Ham's Julian Dicks asked her to represent him. Now she has 27 players on her books. Earlier this year, the Players' Football Association caused a scandal when they refused her entry to their annual bash. Last month she took the matter to the House of Lords, calling for a change in the law on sexual discrimination.

Becoming a football agent was total chance. I had been working as a property dealer and was doing a physiotherapy course after serious car accident. I had twisted my spine and was told I only had a 50-50 chance of walking again. I spent three months in bospital unable to move but was determined to fight back to full mobility, which I did.

Julian Dicks's wife, Kay, was doing the same course, but I had no idea who she was. One day, I picked up a tabloid and they had a picture of Julian holding what looked like a weapon - but was in fact a corner flag they had blacked out. There was major thing to have done. At West

RACHEL ANDERSON, BRITAIN'S ONLY LICENSED FEMALE FOOTBALL AGENT

goes over the top again". I have always loved West Ham and thought Julian was the best defender I had seen. But I commented on what he had done and said to Kay, "This boy should not talk to the press."

By the next week, I had realised who Julian's wife was, and I apologised to her. But she said I was right and she started passing on what I said to Julian. By the end of the course, he got sick of hearing about what I thought and said, "You do it if you're so clever." And I just said. "Yeah, all right. How difficult can it

be to be a football agent?" Julian and I agreed to give each other a year. But within that time I moved him to Liverpool and back again, which I now know was a

a big headline saying, "Terminator Ham, he was the key to gaining interest from other players and it snowballed from there. I think they saw how his image changed after working with me.

His friend Don Hutchinson asked if I could take him on, because he had done some silly things. He had been photographed at a party fooling around with a bottle of Budweiser hiding his privates. I said to him. "If it had been Soi, I would have been ashamed, but Budweiser is a much longer word."

I come from Westcliff-on-Sea. near Southend in Essex, and we've always been an unusual family.

My grandfather, Landal Charlton, was a founder of Mirror Group Newspapers. And my dad, Warwick Charlton, was aide to Lord Mountbatten. During the Second World War



he started 11 newspapers, and used to steal newsprint from behind enemy lines.

After school, I got involved with the family business, Gateways. which handled merchandising for feature films. We had rights for all the firms except Disney but we got fed up with being told we had done things like making Bugs Bunny's ears too small. That was sold on, and

in my late teens I became the assistant to Sir Stanley Rous, the former Fifa president. I helped him run a sporting valour scheme, which was wonderful. I suppose it was Sir Stanley who made me feel it was all right to like football. I got married when I was 18 and

had the first of my two children when I was 21. After that I worked from home doing freelance press releases. I also helped my family when they became involved with bringing the Bolshoi Ballet and Moscow State Circus to Britain. My husband and I entered the roller-coaster world of property in the Eighties. John is a chartered surveyor, and luckily we were able to ride it out when things went wrong.

I hope that other women will become football agents. I have not come across too much sexism from managers. The nicest thing one of them said was that if I was not careful, I would end up giving agents a good

> INTERVIEWBY MARK OLIVER

The REVIEW .

Tom Morgan

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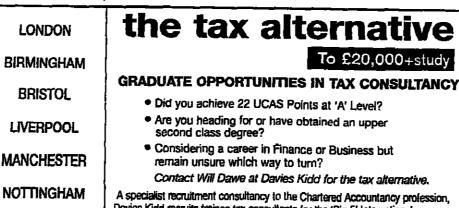


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49.30 (15)

Starring: Aidan Gillen, lan Hart

There is a moment in Absolute Beginners when the director, Julien Temple, pays homage to Recr Window by moving the camera across the exterior of a Soho building dipping into the vignettes unfolding in each office. One of them shows Lionel Blair as a salacious music impresario grooming his iumior Elvis and drooling over the boy's snake-hips. snarl and quiff. That detail reminds us that behind every young blade in pop lurked pimps who made a point of sampling the goods they were flogging.

The new British film Mojo, which Jez Butterworth has directed and adapted from his own play, reveals what we might have seen if Temple had manoeuvred his camera inside that office, down the stairs. KISS OR KILL (18) across the dancefloor and into the dim back rooms.

Mojo is set in a mythologised 1950s Soho which Insignificant Teddy boy Sidney (Andy Serkis) pops pills and dreams of America; his sidekick, Sweets (Martin Gwynn Jones), is a jittery boy, easily impressed: their boss, Ezra (Ricky Tomlinson), is a blancmange of a man who knows what's good for

The film never entirely escapes its theatrical roots, and while it may linger in the shadow of Reservoir riogs, it concentrates on a sexual tension which American crime movies generally shy away from. CW: Plaza, Warner Village West End

SLING BLADE (15)

Director: Billy Bob Thornton Starring: Billy Bob Thornton, Robert Duvall

This intelligent and unsettling drama won its writer-director, Billy Bob Thornton, an Oscar for best adapted screenplay two years ago. Thornton gives a performance of dazzling concentration as Carl, a mentally disabled man released after spending his life in an institution. Despite his past, he is welcomed into the home of a young boy whom he befriends.

Although Thornton is free of the indulgences of st actors who are called upon to portray a disabled character, the film is prone to sanitising

Carl's personality. That aside, this is a compelling work dotted with surprising performances. CW: Clapham Picture House, Odeon Camden Town, Ritzy Cinema. UCI Whiteleys. Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Haymarket

TOUCH (15)

Director: Paul Schrader

Starring: Skeet Ulrich, Christopher Walken Paul Schrader's adaptation of Elmore Leonard's novel turns a breezy satire into a rather heavy-handed investigation into religious conviction. Skeet Ulrich is an accidental saint who finds himself bleeding from stigmata and healing the disabled. CW: Plaza, UCI Whiteleys

Director: Bill Bennett

Starring: Frances O'Connor, Matt Day laces grubby realism with rococo glamour. Australian road movie-cum-serial-killer drama about a couple of scam merchants, one of whom may be a murderer. Pretentious in some places, it manages to be agreeably nasty in others. CW: ABC Shaftesbury Avenue, Odeon Camden Town, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Haymarket

> **GURU IN SEVEN (18)** Director: Shani Grewal

Starring: Saeed Jaffrey, Jacqueline Pearce A dismal, witless British comedy which comes on like an Asian version of Alfie. A young chancer enters into an agreement to sleep with seven women in seven days in order to attain guru status. CW: ABC Piccadilly, Virgin Trocadero

MAD CITY (15) **Director:** Costa Gayras

Starring: Dustin Hoffman, John Travolta A simplistic work from the once inspiring film-maker Costa Gavras, who made Z. Dustin Hoffman is the weaselly reporter who chances upon a hostage situation in a museum. CW: ABC Baker Street. H'smith Virgin, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Rd. Warner Village

Ryan Gilbey

GENERAL RELEASE

THE APOSTLE (12)

Director Robert Duvall plunges into his role in a West End: Clapham Picture House, Empire Leicester Sauare

THE BIG SWAP (18)

A drab, unconvincing and preachy drama about partner-swapping. West End: Plaza

CITY OF ANGELS (12)

Nicolas Cage plays an angel puzzling over whether not to exchange his divinity for domestic bliss with a mortal woman (Meg Ryan). West End: ABC Baker St. ABC Tottenham Court Rd. Barbican Screen, Clapham Picture House, Hammersmith Virgin, Notting Hill Coronet, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Haymarket, Warner Village West End

DREAM WITH THE FISHES (18)

off a bridge. Add a junkie with a month to live and up with a pair of duplicitous women. CW: Virgin give them a few months on the road together before an inevitable tearful farewell. Serve with a sickbag at the ready. Perhaps it's the realisation that Dream With The Fishes could so easily have been a nightmare that makes its success seem refreshing and deserved. West End: Metro

Ŷirls' Night (15)

Shameless tearjerker with Brenda Blethyn as a cancer-suffering bingo winner who jets off to Las Vegas for a last-chance holiday with her sister-inlaw (Julie Walters). Initially bubbly, the picture soon turns grossly manipulative. CW: UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Haymarket, Warner Village West End

THE GIRL WITH BRAINS IN HER FEET (15) Jaunty take on the rites-of-passage genre, set in Leicester in the 1970s. The lively script is complemented by the sparkling performance of Joanna Ward as the film's heroine. West End: Rio Cinema

GREASE (20TH AND EVERSARY EDITION) (PG) eventieth anniversary reissue of the nostalgic musical. What fun there can be had from a second viewing is mostly due to John Travolta's manic performance as the greased-up high-scool heartbreaker. CW: Clapham Picture House, Empire Leicester Square, Hammersmith Virgin. Odeon Marble Arch, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Trocadero

KURT & COURTNEY (15)

Compulsive documentary investigating the death of Nirvana's Kurt Cobain and the conspiracy theories which emerged in the wake of the event. CW: Ritzy Cinema, Screen on the Green, Warner Village West End

THE LAST TIME I COMMITTED SUICIDE (15) A mannered and vacuous dip into the life of the Beat poet Neal Cassady, played by Thomas Jane. There's lots of fast cutting and theatrical lighting. but the film just amounts to the same old Beat cliches. West End: ABC Piccadilly

A novel by Ruth Rendell is the origin of Pedro Almodovar's most accomplished film to date. West End: ABC Shaftesbury Avenue, Gate Notting Hill, Curzon Minema. Odeon Camden Town, Richmond Filmhouse, Ritzy Cinemo, Screen on Baker Street

LOVE AND DEATH ON LONG ISLAND (15)

Comedy, starring John Hurt and Jason Priestley, concerned with the relationship between art and Te.CW: Barbican Screen, Chelsea Cinema. Clapham Picture House, Gate Notting Hill. Metro, Renoir. Richmond Filmhouse, Rio Cinema, Ritzy Cinema, Screen on Baker Street. Screen on the Hill, Virgin Haymarket

MIMIC (15)

Mira Sorvino is a doctor who combats a virus sweeping New York by developing a rival cockroach species to wipe out the original diseasecarriers. CW. Elephant & Castle Coronet, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Marble Arch, UCI Whiteleys. Virgin Trocadero. Warner Village West End Chelsea

MY SON THE FANATIC (15)

Hanif Kureishi establishes an opposition between manner that is is both terrifying and entrancing. a Pakistani taxi driver and his son, who has his sights set on becoming a fundamentalist Muslim. West End: ABC Swiss Centre

THE OBJECT OF MY AFFECTION (15)

Romantic comedy in which Paul Rudd confounds Jennifer Aniston's dreams of weddings by turning out to be gay. CW: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Odeon Canuden Town, Odeon Marble Arch. Odeon Swiss Cottage, Odeon West End. Phoenix Cinema, Ritzy Cinema. Screen on Baker Street, UCI Whiteleys. Virgin Chelsea

POINT BLANK (18) Re-release of John Boorman's chilling existential

thriller strarring Lee Marvin. West End: Gate Notting Hill, Ritzy Cinema. Screen on the Green

Volker Schlöndorff's ironic film noir. Harry Barber

Take a suicidal loser preparing to throw himself (Woody Harrelson) is the ex-con who gets mixed

French tale of a four-year-old girl (Victoire

Thivisol) whose mother dies in a car accident. The young Thivisol is superb, yet it's hard to deny discomfort at watching one so young parade such raw emotion. CW: Curzon Mayfair. Metro

THE REPLACEMENT KILLERS (18)

Executive-produced by Hong Kong action director John Woo, this is an attempt to launch the American career of his favourite star. Chow Yun-Fat. West End: Virgin Trocadero

SAVIOR (18

Politically inept war film set in Bosnia. Dennis Quaid stars as a man who loses his family in a Paris bomb blast and avenges their deaths before becoming a hired killer. West End: Virgin Haymarket

SIX DAYS, SEVEN NIGHTS (12)

Implausibly contrived romantic comedy in which Harrison Ford plays a boozy pilot who crash-lands with a New York magazine editor (Anne Heche) on a remote island. CW: Barbican Screen. Elephant & Castle Coronet. Hammersmith Virgin, Notting Hill Coronet, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington. Odeon Marble Arch. Odeon Swiss Cottage, Odeon West End, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea

SOUL FOOD (15)

A black version of Parenthood, with all the attendant moralising, sentimentality and studied eccentricity which that implies. West End: Clapham Picture House, Ritzy Cinema. Virgin Trocadero

Children's adventure about a young boy who's called upon to save the universe. What it lacks in budget it makes up for in imagination. West End: Hammersmith Virgin, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Trocadero

STIFF UPPER LIPS (15)

Spoof of the Merchant/Ivory movies from one of the talents responsible for Leon the Pig Farmer. West End: Plaza, Virgin Chelsea

THE TASTE OF CHERRY (PG)

The joint winner of last year's Palme d'Or has taken a year to get a release over here, but thanks to highly naturalistic performances, it's a hypnotic and moving experience. West End: Renoir

THE WAR AT HOME (15)

Tale of a traumatised Vietnam veteran on his return home to Texas adapted from James Duff's Broadway play, Homefront, CW: Ploza

THE WEDDING SINGER (12)

Unashamedly dumb but winning comedy about a romantic wedding singer (Adam Sandler) who falls for a waitress (Drew Barrymore). West End: ABC Baker Street, ABC Tottenham Court Road. Elephant & Castle Coronet, Hammersmith Virgin. Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon West End, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys. Virgin

THE INDEPENDENT RECOMMENDS

Film Ryan Gilbey

IF YOU haven't seen Vertigo (right) at the cinema before, try to make tonight's screening. No, the hilarious nightmare sequence still doesn't terrify, but the spell woven by the rest of the picture is dense and intoxicating. James Stewart wears an expression of tormented longing throughout, while Kim Novak is haunting in a role that is really just an enigmatic cipher.

NFT1, London SE1 (0171-928 3232) 8.20pm Blade Runner - The Director's Cut is a more opaque work than the original version, but I'm not sure if it's any deeper. I've never quite been convinced by the claims that the film is a masterpiece, though there's no denying that it has the alluring magic of a fairy-tale. As a replicant questioning his own existence. Rutger Hauer displays a seductive screen presence that would never again be exploited quite so effectively. Tyneside Cinema, Newcastle-upon-Tyne (0191-232 1507) 8.30pm

Pop Tim Perry

THE GREENWICH and Docklands International Festival pumps up the noise with a set from Asian Dub Foundation (right) that fuses rap, punk, dub and techno beats with highly charged political sentiments. Live on stage, ADF add more volume, intensity and energy to already hard-edged songs like "Charge", "Naxalite" and "Free Satpal

Ram" from their highly successful debut album, Rafi's Revenge. Blackheath Concert Halls, London, SE3 (0181-853 4444) 7.45pm The strummings of Chicago's Tortoise inspired someone, somewhere, to come up with the ugly phrase "post-rock". Unfortunately, that term has stuck, but Tortoise's slow-burning, orchestrated guitars can be beautiful, and this sole British gig, marking the end of a European tour plugging their recent TNT album, should provide a great atmosphere in which to savour their brilliance. Support slots come from Plaid and Plone. Vibe Bar, London E1 (0171-734 8932) 8pm-late

CURZON MINEMA

Flesh 3pm, 5pm, 7pm, 9pm

Theatre Dominic Cavendish WHAT YOU might expect from a play about

حكذا من الاجل

two French architects battling it out for a contract to build a moon monument is something arid and remote. What you in fact get from Jean Marie Besset's What You Get and What You Expect (right) is an intelligent, artfully constructed comedy about ambition and desire that towers over most other new plays in town. Lyric Hammersmith, London W6 (0181-741 2311) 7,30pm

While his ever-popular nightclub fourhander Bouncers enjoys a 21st anniversary production at Hull Truck Theatre, John Godber is proving that his powers of observational comedy remain undimmed with his alreadypopular caravan-park four-hander Perfect Pitch. A tale of class conflict. marital malfunction and holidays spent perilously close to the cliff's edge.

Stephen Joseph Theatre, Scarborough (01723 370541) 7.30pm

Comedy James Rampton

LENNY HENRY (right) spares nothing on the live stage - whether rattling through gags at a rate of knots or donning his dinner-platesized medallion to play soul-singing "lurve machine" Theophilus P Wildebeeste. Not for nothing have two of his previous shows been entitled Loud and Larger than Life. As he performs his first live shows for some time, his credo remains the same: "My stand-up is fast and furious. I want to get a laugh every 15 seconds."



Harlequin Theatre, Redhill, Surrey (01737 765547) 8pm Comedy comes in all different shapes and sizes these days, so why not check out tonight's Celebrity Pub Quiz? The main attraction is that the quizmaster is the incomparable Arthur Smith, inventor of one of the world's finest one-liners: "Whatever happened to white dog shit?" East Dulwich Cabaret, East Dulwich Tavern, London SE22 (0181-299 4138) 8.30pm

CINEMA WEST END

ABC BAKER STREET (0171-935-9772) ← Baker Street Godzilla 8.15pm Mad City 1.15pm. 3.40pm, 6.05pm, 8.30pm Sliding Doors 1.20pm, 3.40pm The Wedding Singer

ABC PANTON STREET (0171-930 0631) ← Precadilly Circus As

Good As It Gets 2pm, 5pm, 8pm The Big Lebowski 1 15pm, 3,40pm, 6 05pm, 8 30pm Good Will Hunting 2 10pm, 5 15pm L.A. Contidential 8pm Washington Square 2.40pm, 5.40pm,

ABC PICCADILLY (0171-437 3561) ← Piccadilly Circus Guru in Seven 1.15pm, 3.35pm,

55pm, 8 25pm Mrs Brown 1 20pm, 3 40pm, 6pm, 8.30pm **ABC SHAFTESBURY** AVENUE

(0171-836 6279) 👄 Leicester

Square/Tottenham Court Road Kiss Or Kill 1.30pm, 3.55pm, 6.20pm, 8.45pm **Live Flesh** 1.10pm, 3.35pm, 6pm, 8.25pm

ABC SWISS CENTRE (0171-439-4470) 👄 Leicester Square

Deconstructing Harry 1.10pm 3.20pm. 5.10pm, 8.40pm **Kundun** 1.10pm 45pm, 8.20pm Martha - Meet Frank, Daniel & Laurence 3 10pm, 7.10pm. 9 10pm **My Son The Fanatic** 1.10pm 5.10om Shall We Dance? 1.10om. 3.35pm 6pm 8 40pm Stiff Upper Lips

ABC TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD

(0171-636 6148) O Totlenham Court Road City Of Angels 1 15pm, 3 55pm 6.35pm, 9.15pm **Godzilla** 9.10pm **The** Object Of My Affection 1,25pm, 4pm, 6 35pm The Wedding Singer 1 50pm, 4.20pm, 6 50pm, 9 25pm

BARBICAN SCREEN Love And Death On Long Island 6.15pm, B.40pm Six Days, Seven **Nights** 6.15pm, 8.40pm

CHELSEA CINEMA (0171-351 3742) Sloane Square Love And Death On Long Island 2 35pm, 4 40pm, 6 50pm, 9pm

CLAPHAM PICTURE HOUSE

Girls' Night 2 15pm, 4 30pm, 7pm Godzilla 9 15pm Grease (20th Anniversary Edition) 1 30pm, 4pm, 9pm Love And Death On Long Island 5.15pm, 7.15pm Sling Blade 2pm

CURZON MAYFAIR (0171-369 1720) Green Park Titanic 2.30pm, 7.30pm

ELEPHANT & CASTLE CORONET

(0171-703 4968) Elephant & Casile Deep Impact 3.15pm, 5.45pm, 8.20pm Godzilia 5 45pm, 8 20pm The Object Ol My Affection 3,40pm, 5,55pm 8.30pm Six Days, Seven Nights

SQUARE (0171-437 1234) Leicester Square

EMPIRE LEICESTER

The Apostle 3pm Godzilla 5.30pm. 8,40pm Sliding Doors 1pm, 3,20pm 5 40pm, 8pm

GATE NOTTING HILL (0171-727 4043) → Notting Hill Gate Love And Death On Long Island 4 15pm, 6,35pm, 8,55pm

HAMMERSMITH VIRGIN Park/Hammersmith Godzilla 6pm, 9pm Grease (20th Anniversary Edition) 2 30pm 5 20pm, 8 10pm Mad City 1pm 3 40pm. 6 15pm. 9pm Six Days. Seven Nights 1pm, 3.20pm, 5pm 8 30cm The Wedding Singer 2pm

METRO (0171-437 0757) 😝 Piccadilly Circus/Leicester Square Love And Death On Long Island 3pm, 5pm 7pm 9pm **NOTTING HILL CORONET** (0171-727 6705) ← Notting Hill Gate

(0171-369 1723) ← Knightsbridge Live

Godzilla 6pm, 8.30pm Six Days. Seven Nights 3pm **ODEON CAMDEN TOWN** (0181-315 4229) ← Camden Town City

Of Angels 12.45pm Godzilla 6.05pm, 8.50pm Kiss Or Kill 12.10pm, 2.30pm, 4 45pm, 7pm, 9.15pm The Object Of My Affection 3.20pm Six Days, Seven Nights 12 15pm, 3.30pm, 6.05pm, 8.45pm Sting Blade 1.45pm, 5 15pm, 8.30pm The Wedding Singer 12 05pm, 2.20pm, 4 35pm, 6.50pm,

ODEON HAYMARKET (0181-315 4212) ← Piccadilly Circus The Wedding Singer 1.30pm, 3.55pm, 6.25pm, 8 45pm

ODEON KENSINGTON (0181-315 4214) → High Street kensington City Of Angels 7pm, 9.40pm Godzilla 6.15pm, 9 20pm The Object Of My Affection 6.45pm, 9.30pm Six

Days, Seven Nights 7pm, 9.35pm

ODEON MARBLE ARCH (0181-315 4216) Marble Arch City Of Angels 12.15pm, 3.05pm, 5.55pm, 8 45pm Godzilla 5,45pm 6pm 8.45pm, 9pm. 11.35pm, 11.55pm Grease (20th Anniversary Edition) 12 15pm, 3.05pm, 5 55pm, 8 45pm Mimic 12.25pm, 3 15pm, 11 35pm The Object Of My Affection 12.25pm, 3 15pm Six Days,

ODEON MEZZANINE (0181-315 4215) ← Leicester Square As Good As It Gets 5.45pm, 8.25pm Lolita 5 40pm, 8 20pm Martha - Meet Frank, Daniel & Laurence 6.50pm, 9 05pm Point Blank 6 30pm, 8 55pm

Seven Nights 1pm. 3 45pm. 6.30pm,

9.15pm, 11 45pm

ODEON SWISS COTTAGE 0181-315 4220) ← Swiss Cottage The Big Lebowski 12 45pm, 3.25pm. 6 05pm, 8 35pm **City O1 Angels** 12 30pm, 3 15pm, 6pm, 8.40pm Godzilla épm. 8.40pm Point Blank 1,30pm 4pm, 6,35pm, 8,55pm Red Corner 12.30pm 3 10pm Six Days, Seven Nights 1pm, 3 30pm, 6 15pm, 8 45pm Sliding Doors 1,15pm, 4pm,

ODEON WEST END

6.35pm, 8.50pm

The Object Of My Affection 1pm. 3 30pm, 6 05pm, 8,40pm Six Days, Seven Nights 1 30pm, 3 50pm, 6,25pm,

PHOENIX CINEMA (0181-444 6789) ← Easl Finchley Live Flesh 2pm 4 15pm, 6.30pm, 8 45pm

(0171-437 1234) → Procadilly Circus Deep Impact 3 10pm, 5 50pm, 8,30pm Godzilla 6pm 9pm Jackie Brown 40pm **Mojo** 3.4**0pm,** 6.10pm, 8.20pm

Touch 3 30pm 6pm, 8.15pm

RENOIR (0171-837 8402) Russell Square Love And Death On Long Island 2.35pm. 4 40pm, 6.50pm 9pm The Taste Of Cherry 2 20pm 4 30pm 6.40pm.

RIO CINEMA (0171-254 6677) BR (Dalston Kingsland Fly Away Home Tue 4.15pm Love And Death On Long Island 4 30pm, 9 10pm The Taste Of Cherry 2 15pm, 6 45pm

RITZY CINEMA (0171-737 2121/733 2229) BR/↔ Burdon As Good As It Gets 1pm. 3.35pm Grease (20th Anniversary

Edition) 4 35pm, 6.45pm, 9.05pm Kurt 2.10pm, 4.30pm & Courtney 2 40pm, 4.50pm, 7pm. 9 10pm Love And Death On Long Island 2 (Opm 4 30pm, 6.50pm, 9 15pm r - Short Icebergs) Oscar And Lucinda 2 d5pm Sling Blade 3.15pm. 6рга, 5 50**рг**п

SCREEN ON BAKER STREET

(0171-486 0036) Baker Street Love And Death On Long Island 2 35pm. 4.40pm & 50pm 9pm The Object Of My Affection 3 30pm, 6 20pm, 8,45pm 4 40pm, 6.50pm, 9pm Ponette 2pm 4.15pm 6.30pm, 8.45pm

SCREEN ON THE GREEN (0171-226 3520) ◆ Angel/Highbury & Islington Kurt & Courtney 3pm, 5pm, 70m. 90m

SCREEN ON THE HILL And Death On Long Island 3.30pm. 6.30pm, 8.50pm (+ Short Toy Boys)

UCI WHITELEYS (0171-792 3332) → Bayswater City Of

Angels 3.15pm, 6pm, 8.45pm, 4pm, 6.45pm, 9.30pm Girls' Night 2.40pm, 4.50pm, 7pm Godzilla 6pm, 6.15pm. 8.55pm, 9.10pmGrease (20th Anniversary Edition) 3.10pm Mad City 3.30pm, 6.35pm, 9.25pm The Object Of My Affection 2pm, 6.55pm Six Days, Seven Nights 3,20om. 5.50pm, 8.35pm Sling Blade 3pm, 6.25pm, 9.15pm Sliding Doors 4.10pm Touch 2.15pm, 4.40pm, 7pm, 9.20pm The Wedding Singer 4.30pm.

VIRGIN CHELSEA

6.55pm, 9.35

(0870-9070710) 👄 Square/South kensington Godzilla 6pm. 9pm The Object Of My Affection 2.15pm, 5 15pm, 8 30pm Six Days, Seven Nights 1,15pm, 3 45pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm Slina Blade 12noon, 3pm. ôpm, 9pm The Wedding Singer 2pm

VIRGIN FULHAM ROAD (0870-9070711)

Kensington The Big Lebowski 1.30pm. 4.10pm, 7pm, 9 30pm City Of Angels 1 30pm, 5.30pm, 8.20pm **Godzilla** 6.30pm, 9.20pm **Grease (20th** Anniversary Edition) 1pm. 3.30pm Kiss Or Kill 2pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 8.50pm Mad City 1.10pm, 3.20pm 6.20pm, 9pm Sliding Doors 2 30pm, 5 55pm, 8 40pm

VIRGIN HAYMARKET Kiss Or Kill 1pm, 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.40pm Love And Death On Long Island 2pm. 4.15pm Sling Blade Cpm, 5pm, 8pm

VIRGIN TROCADERO (0870-9070716) ← Piccadilly Circus City Of Angels 1,10pm, 3,40pm, 6,20pm, 9pm Dark City 12.20pm, 2.30pm 4.45pm, 7pm, 9.20pm Grease (20th Anniversary Edition) 1pm, 3.30pm. 6 10pm, 9pm Guru in Seven 12,40pm, 3 20pm, 6pm, 8 50pm. Mimle 12 50pm, 3 20pm, 6.10pm, 9pm Soul Food 12.30pm, 3pm, 5.40pm, 8.50pm

WARNER VILLAGE WEST

The Big Lebowski 11.50pm, 2.50pm, 9pm City Of Angels 12.40pm, 1.40pm, 3.20pm, 4.10pm, 6pm, 6.50pm, 8.40pm, 9.30pm, Kurt & Courtney 1.20pm, 3 40pm, 6.10pm, 8.25pm Mad City 1pm, 3.50pm, 6.30pm, 9.10pm Mimic 1.10pm, 3.30pm, 6.05pm Meja 12.10pm, 2.30pm, 4.50pm, 7pm, 9.30pm Trianic 12noon, 4pm, 8pm The **Wedding Singer** 1.30pm, 3.50pm, 6 20pm, 8 50pm

> CINEMA LONDON LOCALS

ACTON PARK ROYAL WARNER VILLAGE (0181-896 0066) ◆ Park Royal As Good As It Gets 6.40pm 9.20pm City Of Angels 1.10pm, 3.40pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm Deep Impact 4.10pm, 4 20pm Godzilla 6pm, 6.30pm, 7pm, 9pm. 9 30pm. 10pm Grease (20th Anniversary Edition) 1 30pm, 4pm, 6.20pm, 8 50pm Guru in Seven 1pm. 3 30pm, 7 20pm, 9.45pm Mad City 2.40pm, 5.10pm, 7.40pm, 10.10pm Mimic 4.50pm The Object Of My Affection 2.20pm Six Days, Seven Nights 2pm, 4 20pm, 6 50pm, 9.10pm Sliding Doors 1.50pm Soul Food 1.20pm 3 50pm The Wedding Singer

BARKING

Deep Impact 1pm, 3 30pm Godzilla 6 45pm. 9.25pm Mad City 1.25pm. 3.50pm, 6.15pm, 8.40pm Mimic 1,50pm, 4,10pm, 6,35pm, 8,50pm Six Days, Seven Nights 2pm. 4.20pm. 6 40pm. 8.55pm Sliding Doors 12 15pm, 2,25pm, 4,35pm, 6 45pm, 9pm The Wedding Singer 12 20pm, 2,30pm.

ODEON (0181-315 4210) High Barnel City Of Angels 1.10pm, 3.40pm, 6.10pm, 8.35pm Godzilla 5.50pm, 8.35pm Mad City 1.05pm, 3.35pm, 6.05pm, 8.30pm Six Days, Seven Nights 1.15pm, 3.45pm, 6.40pm, 8.55pm Sliding Doors 1.55pm, 4.20pm The Wedding Singer 1.45pm, 4.15pm, 6.40pm, 8.55pm

BECKENHAM

ABC (0870 902 0412) BR. Beckenham Junction Godzilla 8.15pm The Object Of My Affection 1.40pm, 6.20pm Six Days, Seven Nights 1.10pm, 3.45pm. 6.10pm, 8.45pm Stiding Doors 2.10pm, 6pm, 8.30pm The Wedding Singer 4.15pm, 8.55pm BEXLEYHEATH

CINEWORLD (0181-303 1550)
BR Bedeyheath City Of Angels 1.50pm.
4.20pm, 6.50pm, 9.30pm Deep Impact
2.15pm Godzilla Spm, 7pm. 8pm, 9pm,
11pm Grease (20th Asniversary Edition) 12.20pm, 2.40pm, 5pm, 7.20pm, 9.45pm Jab Pyar Klssie Hota Hai 3pm Mad City 11.45am, 2.10pm, 14.40pm, 7.15pm, 9.50pm Major Saab 12noon Minnie 12.10pm, 2.30pm, 5.10pm The Object Of My Affection 12.30pm, 3pm Six Days, Seven Nights 12.30pm, 3pm Six Days, Seven Nights 9.10pm **Stiding Doors** 12noon, 4.45pm **The Wedding Singer** 12.30pm, 2.45pm, 4.50pm, 7.05pm, 9.20pm

BROMLEY ODEON (0181-315 4211) BR: Bromley North/Bromley South City Of Angels 1.25pm, 3 50pm, 6.20pm, 8.50pm **Godzilla** 5.50pm, 8.30pm Mimic 4pm The Object Of My Affection 1.35pm Stx Days, Seven Nights 1.05pm, 3.35pm, 6.10pm, 8.45pm The Wedding Singer 1.45pm. 4.10pm. 6.35pm, 9pm

CATFORD ABC (0181-698 3306) BR Catford Godzilla 8 15pm Six Days, Seven Nights 2.15pm, 5.45pm, 8.15pm

Sliding Doors 2.30pm, 5.50pm CROYDON CLOCKTOWER (0181-253 1030) BR: Croydon West Deconstructing Harry 8.30pm Mrs Brown 4pm Secrets And

Lies 12.30pm The Winter Guest 6 15pm SAFARI (0181-688 3422) BR: West Croydon. City Of Angels 6pm Godzilla 8pm Mimic 6.05pm, 8.05pm The Object Of My Affection 6.05pm, 8.05pm

WARNER VILLAGE (0181-680 8090) BR: East Croydon As Good As It Gets 7.15pm, 9.50pm City Of Angels 1.20pm, 4pm, 6.15pm, 8.55pm Deep Impact 4.30pm Godzilla 6pm, 6.30pm, 7pm, 9.10pm, 9.40pm, 10pm Grease (20th Anniversary Edition) 1.10pm, 3.50pm, 6.45pm, 9.25pm Mad City 12.40pm, 3.10pm, 5.55pm, 8.30pm Mirnic 2pm 4.20pm The Object Of My Affection 12.40pm, 3.20pm, 6.05pm, 8.40pm Six Days, Seven Nights 12.55pm, 3.30pm, 6.20pm, 8.45pm Sliding Doors 2.10pm The Wedding Singer 1.30pm, 4pm

DAGENHAM

WARNER VILLAGE (0181-592 2020) → Danenham Heathway As Good As It Gets 6.50pm. 9.40pm City Of Angels 4pm, 6.30pm, 8.55pm Deep Impact 4.20pm Godzilla 6pm, 6.20pm, 6.45pm, 8.40pm, 9pm, 9.25pm Grease (20th Anniversary Edition) 1.40pm. 4.15pm, 5.50pm, 8.30pm Guru in Seven 1pm, 3.10pm, 7pm, 9.15pm Mad City 3.40pm, 6.10pm, 9.10pm Mimic 2.20pm, 5pm The Object Of My Affection 1.10pm, 3.30pm Six Days, Seven Nights 1.20pm, 3.45pm, 7.15pm, 9.30pm Sliding Doors 1.50pm The Wedding Sloger 2.30pm, 4.50pm

BELLE-VUE (0181-381 2556) ← Edgware Achanak phone for times Dulhe Raja phone for times Gharwali

Darna Kya phone for details Sliding **Deors** 5.35pm, 8.35pm EDMONTON LEE VALLEY UCI 12 (0990-888 990) → Toltenham Hale City Of Annels 5.15pm, 8.10pm, 10 45pm Deep Impact 4.50pm, 7.35pm. 10.25pm Godzīlla 6pm, 7pm, 8.30pm, 9pm, 10pm Grease (20th Anniversary Edition) 3.10pm,

Baharwali phone for times Jab Pvar

Kissie Hota Hai phone for details

Mimic 5 30pm, 8.30pm Pyaar Kiya To

Mad City 4pm, 6.40pm, 9.30pm Mimic 3.50pm The Object Of My Affection 4.15pm Six Days, Seven Nights 4.30pm, 7.25pm, 10.05pm Stiding Boors 3.40pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm Sout Food 4.10pm, 7.05pm, 9.45pm Titanle 4.25pm Touch 3pm, 5.50pm, 8.20pm, 10.50pm The Wedding Singer

FELTHAM CINEWORLD THE MOVIES

(0181-867 0555) BR: Feltham City Of **Angels** 11.20am, 1.50pm, 4.20pm, 6.55pm, 9.25pm **Deep Impact** 11.25am, 1.55pm, 4.30pm **Dulhe Raja** 2.35pm, 9.50pm **Gharwali Baharwali** 1pm, 3.40pm, 6.40pm, 9.20pm **Ghulam** 11am, 2.20pm **Godzitla** 6pm, 7pm, 8pm, 9pm, 10pm Grease (20th Anniversary Edition) 11.30am, 2pm, Anniversary Edition) 11.30am, 2pm, 4.25pm, 6.50pm, 9.15pm Guru In Seven 12.15pm, 2.45pm, 5.15pm, 7.45pm, 10pm Jah Pyar Kissie Hota Hai 11.15am, 6.05pm Mad City 11.55am, 2.25pm, 4.50pm, 7.15pm, 9.50pm Major Saab 11.45am, 3pm, 6.20pm, 9.35pm Minnie 12.40pm, 2.55pm The Object Of My Affection 11.50am, 2.15pm, 4.35pm Six Days, Seven Nights 170on, 2.10pm, 4.40pm, 2.5pm, Nights 170on, 2.10pm, 4.40pm, 2.5pm, 2.15pm, 2.15pm, 2.15pm, 2.15pm, 4.40pm, 2.45pm, 2.15pm, 2.15pm, 2.15pm, 4.40pm, 2.45pm, 2.15pm, 2.15pm, 2.15pm, 2.15pm, 4.40pm, 2.45pm, 2.15pm, 2.15pm, 2.15pm, 2.15pm, 4.40pm, 2.45pm, 2.15pm, 2. Seven Nights 12noon, 2 10pm, 4.40pm, 7.10pm, 9.40pm **Sliding Doors** 12.10pm, 2.30pm, 4.55pm **The Weding Singer** 12.50pm, 2.50pm,

FINCHLEY WARNER VILLAGE (0181-446 9344) → East Finchley/Finchley Central As Good As It Gets 7pm, 9.35pm City Of Angels 2pm, 4.20pm, 6.55pm. 9.30pm Deep Impact 2pm Godzilla 6pm, 6.30pm, 7pm, 8.40pm, 9.20pm. 9.40pm Grease (20th Anniversary Edition) 6.40pm, 9pm Mad City 4pm, 6.45pm, 9.20pm Mimle 2.30pm, 4.40pm The Object Of My Affection

5pm, 7.05pm, 9,30pm

2 05pm, 4.30pm, 9.40pm Six Days, Seven Nights 2.10pm, 4.30pm, 7.10pm, 9.50pm Stiding Doors 4.40pm The Wedding Singer 3.20pm **GOLDERS GREEN** ABC (0181-455 1724) ← Golders Green Godzilla 8pm Six Days, Seven

Nights 1.45pm, 4pm, 6.15pm GREENWICH CINEMA (0181-293 0101) BR Greenwich City Of Angels 3 30pm, form Godzilla 9.15pm The Object Of My Affection 3.45pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm Six Days, Seven Nights 4pm,

ABC (0870-902 0413) Belsize Park City Of Angels 2.10pm, 5.40pm Godzilla 8pm Six Days, Seven Nights 1.30pm, 3.50pm, 8.25pm Sliding Doors 1.40pm, 4pm, 6.20pm, 8.40pm

SAFARI CINEMA (0181-426 0303)

O Harrow-on-the-Hill Dushman

HAMPSTEAD

1.30pm, 5pm, 8.45pm Major Saab 1.30pm, 5pm, 8.45pm WARNER VILLAGE (0181-427 9009) O Harrow on the Hill As Good As It Gets 6.50pm, 9.30pm City Of Angels 1.20pm, 3.40pm, 6.10pm, 8.30pm Deep Impact 1.50pm Godzilla 6pm, 6.30pm, 7pm, 8.50pm, 9.20pm, 9.50pm Grease (20th Anniversary Edition) 1pm, 3.30pm, 6.40pm, 9pm Guru in Seven 2pm, 4.30pm, 7.10pm, 9.40pm Mad City 12.30pm, 3pm, 5.50pm, 8.20pm Mimic 4.20pm The Object Of My Affection 1.40pm, 4.10pm Six Days, Seven Nights 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.20pm, 8.40pm Siding Doors 2.20pm, 4.40pm The Wedding Singer 1.10pm, 3.40pm

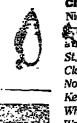
HOLLOWAY ODEON (0181-315 4213) O Holloway Road/Archway City Of Angels 6.15pm, 8.45pm Godzilla 6.05pm, 8.50pm Six Days, Seven **Nights** 6.35pm, 8.55pm

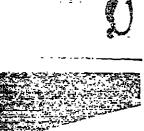
ODEON (0181-315 4223) ← Gants Hill City Of Angels 2.40pm, 6pm, 8.30pm Deep Impact 1pm, 5.55pm Godzilla 6pm, 8.30pm Mimic 2.50pm Six Days, Seven Nights 1.20pm, 3.40pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm **Sliding Doors** 3.25pm, 8.35pm The Wedding Singer 1.30pm, 3.50pm, 6pm, 8.30pm

KINGSTON

9.05pm

ABC OPTIONS (0870-902 0409) BR: Kingston Godzilla 8om The Object Of My Affection 5 40pm Six Days, Seven Nights 2.30pm, 5.50pm, 8.25pm Sliding Doors 2.20pm, 6.10pm, 8.30pm





 $\mathbb{P}\left(\left(\mathbf{y}_{\mathbf{y}}^{(i)} + \mathbf{y}_{\mathbf{y}}^{(i)} \right) \right) \leq \mathbf{y}_{\mathbf{y}}^{(i)} + \mathbf{y}_{\mathbf{y}}^{(i)} + \mathbf{y}_{\mathbf{y}}^{(i)} \right)$

A SHEET STATE OF

ABC PANTON STREET (0171-930 0631) - Piccadilly Circus As Good As it Gets 2pm, 5pm, 8pm The Big Lebowski 1.15pm, 3.40pm, 6.05pm. 8.30pm Good Will Hunting 2.10pm, 5.15pm L.A. Confidential 8pm Washington Square 2.40pm, 5.40pm.

ABC PICCADILLY (0171-437 3561) ← Piccadilly Circus Guro In Seven 1.15pm, 3.35pm, 5.55pm, 8.25pm Mrs Brown 1.20pm, 3.40pm, 6pm, 8.30pm

ABC SHAFTESBURY AVENUE

(0171-836 6279) + Leicester Square/Tottenham Court Road Kiss Or Kiff 1.30pm, 3.55pm, 6.20pm, 8.45pm Live Flesh 1.10pm, 3.35pm, 6pm, 8.25pm

ABC SWISS CENTRE (0171-439 4470) → Leicester Square Deconstructing Harry 1.10pm, 3.20pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm Kundun 1.10pm, 3 45pm, 8 20pm Martha - Meet Frank, Dapiel & Laurence 3.10pm, 7.10pm, 9.10pm My Son The Fanatic 1.10pm, 5.10pm Shall Wa Dance? 1.10pm. 3.35pm, 6pm, 8.40pm Stiff Upper Lips

ABÇ TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD (0171-636 6148) Toltenham Court Road City Of Angels 1.15pm, 3.55pm, 6.35pm, 9.15pm Godzilla 9.10pm The Object Of My Affection 1.25pm, 4pm, 6.35pm The Wedding Singer 1.50pm,

BARBICAN SCREEN (0171-382 7000) ← Moorgate/Barbican Love And Death On Long Island 6 15pm. 8.40pm Six Days, Seven **Nights** 6.15pm, 8.40pm

CHELSEA CINEMA (0171-351 3742) ➡ Sloane Square Love And Death On Long Island 2.35pm, 4.40pm, 6.50pm, 9pm

CLAPHAM PICTURE HOUSE

4.20pm, 6.50pm, 9.25pm

(0171-498 2242) Clapham Common Girls' Night 2.15pm, 4.30pm, 7pm Godzilia 9.15pm Grease (20th Anniversary Edition) 1.30pm, 4pm, 9pm Love And Death On Long Island 5 15pm. 7.15pm Sling Blade 2pm. 6.30am, 9.15am

CURZON MAYFAIR (0171-369 1720) Green Park Titanic 2.30pm, 7.30pm

ELEPHANT & CASTLE

CORONET (0171-703 4968) Elephant & Castle Deep Impact 3.15pm, 5.45pm, 8.20pm Godzilla 5.45pm, 8.20pm The Object Of My Affection 3.40pm, 5.55pm, 8.30pm Six Days, Seven Nights

EMPIRE LEICESTER SQUARE

(0171-437 1234) ← Leicester Square The Apostle 3pm Godzilia 5.30pm, 8.40pm Sliding Doors 1pm, 3.20pm, 5.40pm, 8pm

GATE NOTTING HILL (0171-727 4043) Notting Hill Gate Love And Death On Long Island 4 15pm, 6.35pm, 8.55pm

HAMMERSMITH VIRGIN Park/Hammersmith Godzilla 6pm, 9pm Grease (20th Anniversary Edit 2.30pm, 5.20pm, 8.10pm Mad City 1pm, 3.40pm, 6.15pm, 9pm Six Days,

Seven Nights 1pm. 3.20pm, 6pm, 8 30pm The Wedding Singer 2pm **METRO** (0171-437 0757) ← Piccadilly

Circus/Leicester Square Love And Death On Long Island 3pm, 5pm, 7pm, 9pm Panette 2pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm **CURZON MINEMA** Flesh 3pm, 5pm, 7pm, 9pm

NOTTING HILL CORONET (0171-727 6705) Noting Hill Gate Godzilla 6pm. 8.30pm Six Days. Seven Nights 3pm

ODEON CAMPEN TOWN (0181-315-4229) ← Camden Town City Of Angels 12.45pm Godzilia 6.05pm, 8.50pm Kiss Or Kill 12.10pm, 2.30pm 4 45pm, 7pm, 9.15pm The Object Of My Affection 3 20pm Six Days, 6 05pm 8 45pm **Sling Blade** 1.45pm 5 15pm. 8 30pm **The Wedding Singer** 12 05pm. 2.20pm 4 35pm. 6.50pm.

ODEON HAYMARKET (0181-315 4212) → Piccadilly Circus The Wedding Singer 1 30pm, 3 55pm,

ODEON KENSINGTON (0131-315 4214) High Street kensington City Of Angels 7pm 9.40pm Godzilla 6 15pm, 9.20pm The Object Of My Affection 6 45pm. 9 30pm Six Days, Seven Nights 7pm, 9.35pm

ODEON MARBLE ARCH (0161-315 4216) Marble Arch City Of Angels 13 15pm, 3 05pm, 5.55pr 8 45pm **Godzilla** 5.45pm, 6pm, 8.45pm 9pm, 11 35pm, 11,55pm Grease (20th Anniversary Edition) 12 15pm, 3 05pm. 5.55pm, 8 45pm Mimic 12.25pm, 5.15pm. 11 35pm The Object Of My Affection 12 25pm 3 15pm Six Days, Seven Nights 1pm, 3.45pm, 6.30pm, 9 15pm 11 45pm

ODEON MEZZANINF

(0181-315 4216) ← Leicester Square As Good As It Gets 5.45pm, 8.25pm Lolita 5 40pm, 8.20pm Martha - Meet Frank, Daniel & Laurence 6.50pm. 9 05pm Point Blank 6.30pm, 8.55pm

ODEON SWISS COTTAGE Big Lebowski 12.45pm, 3.25pm c 05pm. 8.35pm City Of Angels 12.30pm 3.15pm, 6pm, 8.40pm Godzilla 6pm. 8.40pm Point Blank

1.30pm, 4pm, 6.35pm, 8.55pm Red Corner 12.30pm, 3.10pm Six Days, Seven Nights 1pm, 3.30pm, 6.15pm. 8.45pm Sliding Deors 1.15pm, 4pm, 6.25pm, 8.50pm

ODEON WEST END (0181-315 4221) & Leicester Square The Object Of My Affection 1pm. 3.30pm, 6.05pm, 8.40pm Slx Days, Seven Nights 1.30pm, 3.50pm, 6.25pm.

PHOENIX CINEMA (0181-444 6789) 👄 East Finchley Live Flesh 2pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm

(0171-437 1234) → Piccadilly Circus Deep Impact 3.10pm, 5.50pm, 8.30pm Godzilia 6pm, 9pm Jackie Brown 7.40pm **Maja** 3.40pm, 6.10pm, 8.20pm Touch 3,30pm, 6pm, 8.15pm

(0171-837 8402) O Russell Square Love And Death On Long Island 2.35pm, 4.40pm, 6.50pm, 9pm The Taste Of Cherry 2.20pm, 4.30pm, 6.40pm,

RIO CINEMA (0171-254 6677) BR: Dalston Kingsland

Fly Away Home Tue 4.150m Love And Death On Long Island 4.30pm, 9.10pm The Taste Of Cherry 2 15pm, 6,45pm RITZY CINEMA

(0171-737 2121/733 2229) BR/O Brixton As Good As It Gets 1pm. 3.35pm Grease (20th Anniversary Edition) 4.25pm, 6.45pm, 9.05pm Kurt & Courtney 2.40pm, 4.50pm, 7pm, .10pm Love And Death On Long Island 2.10pm, 4.30pm, 6.50pm 9.15pm (+ Short: Icebergs) Oscar And Lucinda 2.05pm Sling Blade 3.15pm,

SCREEN ON BAKER STREET

(0171-486 0036) Baker Street Love And Death On Long Island 2.35pm, 4.40pm, 6.50pm, 9pm The Object Of My Affection 3.30pm, 6.20pm, 8.45pm SCREEN ON THE GREEN

(0171-226 3520) → Angel/Highbury & Islington Kurt & Courtney 3pm, 5pm, 7pm, 9pm **SCREEN ON THE HILL**

8.55pm, 9.10pm**Grease (20th**

The Wedding Singer 4.30pm,

VIRGIN CHELSEA

(0870-9070710) ↔

VIRGIN FULHAM ROAD

Anniversary Edition) 1pm, 3.30pm

Sliding Doors 2.30pm, 5.55pm, 8.40pm

(0870-9070712) ◆ Piccadilly Circus Kiss Or Kill 1pm, 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.40pm

Love And Death On Long Island 2pm.

4 15pm Sling Blade 2pm, 5pm, 8pm

0870-9070716) ← Piccadilly Circus City

Of Angels 1.10pm, 3.40pm, 6.20pm, 9pm Dark City 12.20pm, 2.30pm,

1 45pm. 7pm. 9 20pm Grease (20th

Anniversary Edition) 1pm, 3 30pm,

6 10pm. 9pm **Guru in Seven** 12 40pm.

3.20pm, 6pm, 8.50pm Mimic 12.50pm

3 20pm. 6.10pm. 9pm Soul Food

12 30pm, 3pm, 5,40pm, 6 50pm

WARNER VILLAGE WEST

(0171-437-4347) Leicester Square

The Big Lebowski 11 50pm, 2 50pm 9pm City Of Angels 12,40pm, 1 40pm, 3 20pm, 4 10pm, 6pm, 6 50pm, 8 40pm,

30pm **Kurt & Courtney** 1 20pm

3 40pm, 6 10pm, 8,25pm, Mad City

1pm. 3 50pm. 6.30pm 2 10pm Mimic 1 10pm. 3.30pm. 6 05pm Mojo

12.10pm, 2.30pm, 4.50pm, 75m

9 30pm Titanic 12noon 4pm, 8pm The

Wedding Singer 1.30pm 3.50pm

CINEMA

LONDON LOCALS

PARK ROYAL WARNER VILLAGE (0181-896 0066) & Path

Royal **As Good As It Gets** 6.40cm

9.20pm City Of Angels 1 10pm, 3 40pm

6.10pm, 3.40pm Deep Impact 4.10pm

4.20pm Godzilla 6pm 6 30pm, 7pm,

9pm 9.30pm, 10pm Grease (20th

Anniversary Edition) 1.30pm, 4pm

6.20pm 3.50pm **Guru In Seven** 1pm.

3 30pm, 7,20pm, 9 45pm Mad City 2,40pm, 5,10pm, 7 40pm, 10 10pm

Mimic 4.50pm The Object Of My

Affection 2 20pm Six Days, Seven

Mights 2pm, 4.20pm, 6.50pm, 9.10pm

Sliding Doors 1.50pm Soul Food

1.20pm. 3.50pm The Wedding Singer

Deep Impact 1pm, 3.30pm Godzilla

6.45pm, 9.25pm Mad City 1.25cm.

3 50pm. 6.15pm, 8 40pm Mimic

1 50pm, 4 10pm, 6.35pm, 8 50pm Six

Days. Seven Nights 2pm. 4 20pm.

6.40pm. 8.55pm Sliding Doors

12 15pm, 2 25pm, 4,35pm, 6,45pm, 9pm

The Wedding Singer 12 20pm, 2.30pm,

4.40pm, 6.50pm, 3pm

BARNET

2 10pm. 4.30pm

BARKING

END

6 20pm 8.50pm

ACTON

VIRGIN HAYMARKET

VIRGIN TROCADERO

0

(0870-9070711)

(0171-435 3366) ← Belsize Park Love And Death On Long Island 3.30pm, 6.30pm, 8.50pm (+ Short, Toy Boys) UCI WHITELEYS (0171-792 3332) ← Bayswaler City Of Angels 3.15pm, 6pm, 8.45pm, 4pm, 6.45pm, 9.30pm Girls' Night 2.40pm, 4.50pm, 7pm Godzilla 6pm, 6.15pm, (0171-494 5045) ← Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mats Wed & Sat 3pm,

Anniversary Edition) 3.10pm Mad City 3.30pm, 6.35pm, 9.25pm The Object Of My Affection 2pm, 6.55pm Six Days, Seven Nights 3.20pm, 5.50pm, 8.35pm Siting Blade 3pm, 6.25pm, 9.15pm Siting Doors 4.10pm Pauch 2.15pm, 4.40pm Zon, 8.30pm, **THE COMPLETE WORKS** OF WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE (ABRIDGED) Reduced Stakespeare Company fast-lorward through 37 plays.

Criterion Theatre Piccadilly Circus,

W1 (0171-369 1747) ← Piccadilly **Touch** 2.15pm, 4.40pm, 7pm, 9.20pm Circus, Wed-Sat Born, mats Thu 3om, Sat 5pm, Sun 4pm, £9.50-£20, 120 mins.

● DR DOLITTLE Phillip Schofield talks to the animals in this new stage adaptation featuring Jim Henson Puppets. Labatt's Apolio Hammersmith Queen

the slage version of the hit film. Cambridge Theatre Earlham Street, WC2 (0171-494 5080) ← Covent Garden. South KensingtonThe Big Lebowski 1.30pm. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mats Wed & Sat 3pm,

1.30pm, 5.30pm, 8.20pm Godzilla 6.30pm, 9.20pm Grease (20th Kiss Or Kill 2pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 8.50pm Mad City 1.10pm, 3.20pm, 6.20pm, 9pm Covent Garden, Mon-Sat Born, mats Thu & Sat 4pm, ends 8 Aug, £12-£16. concs available, 95 mins.

> O THE ICEMAN COMETH Kevin Spacev stars in Eugene O'Neill's. classic testimony to the power of dreams. Old Vic The Cut. SE1 (0171-928 7616/cc 420 0000) BR/↔ Waterloo, Mon-Sat 7pm, mats Sat 1,30pm, ends 1 Aug, £5-£30, 180 mins.

Christopher Cazenove and Kate O'Mara in Peter Hall's acclaimed production of Wilde's comedy. Albery Theatre St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-369 1730/cc 867 1111) O Leicester Square, Mon-Sai 7 45pm mats Thu 3pm, Saf 4pm, 97 50-

WC2 (0171-494 5085) 👄 Laicester Square Mon-Fri 7 45pm, Sat 8,15pm, mato Wed 2 30pm | Sat 5pm, 910 50-925

Musical set in 1950s Cape Town. Vaudeville Theatre Strand, WCZ (0171-36 9987; ER• ← Charmy Cross Mon-That Sort Fri-Sat 5 30pm & 8 30pm, ends Aug. £6 25-£27 50, 130 mins

(0171-836 8888/cc 836 0479) **⊖** 45pm mats Wed 3pm, Sat 4pm, £12 50-225 135 mins

MAJÓR BARBARA Jemma Redgrave and Peler Bowles star. Piccadilly Theatre Denman Street, W1 1-369 1734) O Piccadilly Circus In rep. 10day 2.30pm & 7.45pm. continuing, £8.50-£27 50, 180 mins

THE MAN WHO CAME TO DINNER Classic American comedy of errors from Steppenwolf Theatre. **Barbican Theatre** Barbican Centre, EC2 (0171-638 8891) + Parbican Moorgate. In rep. tonight 7pm. ends 25 Jul. 26-927.

VENICE Shakespeare's cross Cultural comedy. **The Globe** New Globe Malk, SE1 (0171-401 3919) ← London Bridge, In rep. today 2pm, ends 19 Sep. 25-220, concs available, 180 mins.

● A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM Classic tale of love and con-193ich set in the fairy kingdom Open Air Theatre Repent's Park, NW1 (0171-486) 2431-cc 48€ 1933) Baker Street In ODEON (0181-315 4210) High | rep. today 2 30pm | Barnet City Of Angels 1 10pm 3 40pm, | \$2-220 165 mins rep. todzy 2 30pm & 8pm, ends 5 Sep.

) LES MISERABLES Musical dramatisation of Victor Hugo's masterpiece. Palace Theatre Shafesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-434 0909) O Piccadilly Circus, Mon-Sat 7.30pm mats Thu & Sat 2.30pm, £7-£32.50

● MHSS SAIGON Musical which Returns only Matinees — [1]: Sun. [3]: Tue, [4]. Wed, [5]: Thu, [6]: Fri, [7]: Sat resets the Madam Butterfly tragedy in Vietnam. Theatre Royal, Drury Lane ▶ **ART** Richard Griffiths, Tony Haygarth, and Malcolm Storry in Yasmina Catherine Street, WC2 (0171-494 5060) Coveril Garden, Mon-Sat 7.45pm, mats Reza's comedy about art and friendship. Wed & Sat 3pm, £5.75-£32.50, 165 mins.

> THE MOUSETRAP Againa Christie's whodunnit, St Martin's Theatre West Street, WC2 (0171-836 1443) - Leicester Square, Mon-Sat 8pm, mats Tue 2.45pm, Sat 5pm, £9-£23.

Shakespeare's literary comedy contrast-MUCH ADO ABOUT ing the court and the natural world. The NOTHING Declan Donnéllan directs Giobe New Globe Walk, SE1 (0171-401 Cheek By Jowl in a new production of 9919) ← London Bridge. In rep, tonight 7.30pm, ends 8 Sep, £5-£20, concs avail-Shakespeare's classic. Playhouse Theatre Northumberland Avenue, WC2 (0171-839 4401/cc 316 4747) & Embankment, Mon-Sat 7,30om, mats Thu & Sal 2.30pm, ends 25 Jul, £10-£22, 120 Lavish family musical based on Disney's Theatre Totlenham Court Road, W1 (0171-656 1888) ← Tottenham Court Road, Mon-Sat 7, 30pm, mals Wed & Sat

BORHOOD David Mamet's new play is directed by Patrick Marber. Royal Court Theatre (at the Duke Of York's) St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-565 5000) ← Leicester Square. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mats Sat 3.30pm, £5-£19.50, benches 10p, Mon - all seats £5. 90 mins. O THE PHANTOM OF THE

) THE OLD NEIGH

Mon-Sat 7.45pm, mats Thu 3pm, Sat OPERA Andrew Lloyd Webber's Gothic musical. Her Majesty's Theatre Haymarket, SW1 (0171-494 5400/cc 344 tracing the brief life of Buddy Holly. Strand 4444) ➡ Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, mats Wed & Sat 3pm, £10-£32.50, 150 mins Tue-Thu 8pm, Fri 5.30pm & 8.30pm, Sat

5pm & 8.30pm, mats Sun 4pm, £6.75-£30, 160 mins. ● POPCORN Lawrence Boswell directs Ben Ellon's satire on cinema violence. Apolio Theatre Shaftesbury Avenue. W1 (0171-494 5070) ↔ Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Sat 8pm, m Wed 3pm, Sat 4pm, £6.50-£23.50. 150

> **THE REAL INSPECTOR** HOUND & BLACK COMEDY Double bill of drama from Torn Stoppan and Peter Shaffer, directed by Gregory Doran. Cornedy Theatre Panton Street, SW1 (0171-369 1731) ← Piccadilly Circus/Leicester Square. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mats Wed & Sat 3pm, £7.50-£27.50.

> ▶ RENT Musical inspired by La Bohéme and set in modern day New York. Shaftesbury Theatre Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (0171-379 5399) & Holborn/Tottenham Court Road. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mats Wed & Sat 3pm, £12.50-

ROYAL NATIONAL THEATRE
O OLIVIER: Oldahomal Rodgers and Hammerstein's classic musical, turing the song "Oh What A Beautiful Mornin'". In rep, lonight 7.15pm, ends 3 Oct. DLYTTELTON: The Prime Of Miss

Jean Brodie Fiona Shaw stars as the Scottish schoolmistress in this new adaptation of the classic novel by Muriel CAMBRIDGE Spark. In rep. lonight 7.30pm. ends 3 Oct. 155 mins.

O COTTESLOE: Copenhagen New drama from Michael Frayn about the discovery of the atom. In rep, tonight 2.30pm & 7.30pm, continuing. 145 mins. Olivier & Lyttelton: £8-£27, Oklahoma! £12-£32.50. Cottesloe: £12-504444/357851) £18, South Bank, SE1 (0171-452 3000) Embankment.

SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER Hil 1970s musical featuring songs by the CHICHESTER London Palladium Argyli Street, W1 (0171-494 5020) & Oxford Circus. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mals Wed & Sat 2.30pm, £10-£32.50, 135 mins.

• SHAKESPEARE'S VILLAINS Steven Berkoff's look at evil in Shakespeare. Theatre Royal **Havmarket** Havmarket, SW1 (0171-930 8800) ← Piccadilly Circus. Tue-Sat 8.15pm, mats Sat 5pm, ends 9 Aug. £8-£17.50, concs £10, 70 mins.

SHOW BOAT Jerome kern and Occar Hammerstein's musical set on the Mississippi. Prince Edward Theatre Old Compton Street, W1 (0171-447 5400) → Leicesler Square/Toltenham Court Road, Mon-Sat 7,30pm, mats Thu & Sat 2.30pm, £10-£35, 180 mins.

SMOKEY JOE'S CAFE -THE SONGS OF LEIBER AND STOLLER The rock and roll falmakers celebrated in a musical revue that includes "Jailhouse Rock". Prince of **Vales Theatre** Coventry Street, Wi (0171-839 5972) Leigester Square Piccadilly Circus Mon-Thu 8pm. Fri 5 45pm & 8 30pm, Sal 3pm & 8pm. £15-£32 50. Fri mats £10-£25 135 mins

STARLIGHT EXPRESS musical Apollo Victoria Willon Road. SW1 (0171-416 6070) BR/ Victoria Mon-Sat 7 45pm, mats Tue & Sat 3pm,

£12 50-£30, 150 mins. **SWEET CHARITY Bonnie** ngford stars in this classic musical, featuring the numbers Hey Big Spender and the Rhythm Of Life Victoria Palace Victoria Street SW1 (0171-834 1317) BR/ Victoria, Mon-Sal 7 30pm, mats

Wed & Sal 3pm, £15-£30, 160 mins THINGS WE DO FOR LOVE Jane Asher stars in Alan Avokboum's comedy Gieloud Theatre Shaffesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5065) & Piccadilly Circus Mon-Sat 7.45pm, mats Thu & Sat 3pm, £10 50-927,50, 140 mins.

• THE UNEXPECTED MAN Yasmma Reza's follow-up to Art concerns a novelist and a life-long admirer Michael Gambon and Eileen Atkins star Duchess Theatre Catherine Street, WC2 (0171-Garden, Mon-Sai Spm, mats Wed 4pm,

Sat 5pm, £10-£25 100 mins.) WHAT YOU GET AND WHAT YOU EXPECT Acerbic look at a generation tent on success from Jean-Marie Besset Lyric Hammersmith King Street, W6 (0181-741 2311) Hammersmith, Mon-Sat

> WINDSOR Thu 2 30pm. Sat 4 45pm, ends 1 Aug £5-£20, concs available. Thames Street (01753-853888)

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FIRST CALL, LAST CALL

First Call

MANIC STREET Preachers (right) have announced an 11-date tour for next month. Since last year's "Design For Life" hit single re-cast the Manics for a Britpop audience, the Welsh outfit are now flavour of the year, the Welsh Tourist Board have even requested a Manics tune for an advert. Cork Opera House, 28 Aug; Dublin Slane Castle (with The Verve) 29 Aug: Belfast Ulster Hall, 30 Aug: Kettering Arena, 15 Sept; Chester Northgate Arena, 16 Sept; Bridlington Spa Royal Hall, 17 Sept. Dundee Caird Hall, 18 Sept, Port Talbot Afan Lido, 20 Sept, Stoke Trentham Garden, 21 Sept, Margate Wintergardens, 22 Sept and Hereford Leisure Centre, 23 Sept. Credit card hotline 0115 912 9240, £14

SWEET CHARITY, starring Bonnie Langford as the lovelorn dance-hall hostess, Charity Hope Valentine, is extending its run by four weeks. The musical chronicles

the tribulations of Charity's search for Mr Right. The Guardian called it "an amusing, likeable show" while the Daily Mail gave faint praise by calling Langford "a real trouper". As for our critic? "Everything's right but at the same time all wrong. Where's the sex, the sleaze, the soul?" Victoria Palace Theatre, Victoria Street. London SW1 (0171-834 1317) Tickets £15-£30. To 12 Sept



THE WOMAN IN BLACK Susan Hill's chilling ghost story. Fortune Theatre Russell Street, WC2 (0171-83) 2238/cc 344 4444) ← Covent

THEATRE **BEYOND THE WEST END**

Garden/Holborn, Mon-Sal Sprn, mats Tue 3pm, Sal 4pm, £8.50-£23.50, 110 mins.

BAC The Changeling Middleton and Rowley's tale of deception. Tue-Sur 7.30pm, ends 19 Jul. £9. concs £6 The Glass Menagerie Tennesse Villiams polgnant drama . Tue-Sat 8pm Sun 6pm, ends 19 Jul. £9.50-£11 concs £6. Lavender Hill, SW11 (0171-223 2223) BR. Clapham Junction.

HAMPSTEAD THEATRE After Darwin Timberiake Wertenbaker's drama tigation of the clash between believers is natural selection and believers in religious humanism. Slars Colin Salmon. Mon-Sal 8pm, mats Sat 3.30pm, ends 22 Aug. £8-£15. Avenue Road, NW3 (0171-722 9301) Swiss Cottage.

> **IHEATRE** COUNTRYWIDE

HIPPODROME THEATRE The Goodbye Girl Marti Webb and Gan Wilmot star in this musical adaptation of the Neil Simon movie. Mon-Sat 7.30pm. mats Wed & Sat 2.30pm. £5-£20.50 concs available. St Augustines Parade

GIRTON COLLEGE GARDENS

HARVEY COURT GARDENS The Comedy Of Errors Shakespeare's comedy performed in the open air. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, ends 1 Aug. £9, concs £6.

CHICHESTER FESTIVAL THEATRE Racing Demon David Hare's gripping drama follows the lives of four Church Of England clergy and their work, Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mats Thu & Sat, 2.30pm, ends 1 Aug. £6.50-£25 Oaklands Park (01243-781312)

Thu & Sat 2.45pm, ends 18 Jul. £10-£12.50. concs available Oaklands Park

7 45pm. Fri-Sat 8pm, mats Thu & Sat 2 30pm. ends 25 Jul £14.50-£21.50. concs available. Millbrook (01483-440000) THE MILL AT SONNING Out Of

STAMFORD RUTLAND OPEN AIR THEATRE. **TOLETHORPE HALL As You Like** If Shakespeare romantic cornedy in the grounds of Totelhorpe Half. Times vary. hone for prices, ends 1 Aug £8-£13. conco available A Comedy Of Errors Shakespeare's comedy about identical twins meeting after an 18 year separation. Times vary phone for details, ends 28 Aug. £8-£13

conco available (01780-756133) STRATFORD-UPON-AVON THE OTHER PLACE Goodnight Children Everywhere Drama about the emotional tragitity of family relationships in rep. mai loday 1 30pm. ends 1 Sep. £12-£19 Southern Lane (01789-295623)

ROYAL SHAKESPEARE **THEATRE The Merchant Of Venice** Shakespeare's drama about love and money in rep. mai today 1 30pm, ends 1 Sep.

SWAN THEATRE Bartholomew Fair Jonson's literatrical drama in rep. mat. loday 1 30pm, ends 1 Sep £5-£31. The Two Gentlemen Of Verona Directed by Edward Hall In rep tonight

THEATRE ROYAL A Tale Of Two Cities Paul Nicholas stars in this new musical adaptation. Mon-Sat 8pm, mats **EXHIBITIONS**

BRISTOL ARNOLFINI Tracey Moffatt: An Exhibition Of Photographs And Films First major solo show. Mon-Sat 10am-

CAMBRIDGE American Painters: Frankenthaler, Noland, Olitski, Poons Important figures in America's avant-garde. Tue-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2.15pm-5pm, ends 8 Nov. free. Trumpington Street

LONDON **BARBICAN ART GALLERY The** Warhol Look: Glamour, Style, Fashion Over 500 works by 60 artists explore art, film and lashion during Warhol's life. Mon, Thu-Sat 10am-6.45pm, Tue 10am-5.45pm, Wed 10am-7.45pm. Sun & Bank Hols 12noon-6.45pm, ends 16 Aug. £6 (£4 after 5pm Mon-Fri), concs £4. Slik Street, EC2 (0171-638 4141) Barbican/Moorgale

EUROPEAN ACADEMY AND ACCADEMIA ITALIANA Sensitivities: Contemporary Art From Central Europe Art from the past fifteen years Mon-Sat 10am-6pm, Wed 10 am 8pm, Sun 2pm-6pm, ends 30 Aug, free. Grosvenor Place, SW1 (0171-235 0303) O Hyde Park Corner.

of light, includes work by Bloemaert and ler Brugghen, Ends 2 Aug. £5, concs £3. Caravaggio: The Flageflation Of Christ Exhibition centred on a loaned work by the 17th century artist. Ends 9 Aug. free. Venice Through Canaletto's Eyes

ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS Royal Academy Summer Exhibition 1998 Major annual selling exhibition. Mon-Sun 10am-6pm (Sun to 8.30pm), ends 16 Aug. £7, UB40/OAP £5.50, NUS £5, child 12-18 £2.50, child 8-11 incl handbook

casts of human bodies on display in the countyard. Mon-Sun all day, ends 30 Sep. Chagail: Love And The Stage Featuring colourful murals made in Russia. Mon-Sun 10am-6pm (Sun Jul

(0171-300 8000/cc 300 5676) Green Park. TATE GALLERY Some New Paintinos: Lucian Freud Recent work by the leading British artist, including a

Patrick Heron Retrospective of the British artist whose work played a major role in post-war abstract art. Ends 6 Sep. £5. concs £ 25
Moonlight And Firelight: Watercolours

From The Turner Bequest Work exploring Turner's interest in moonlight and Inelight Mon-Sun 10am-5.50pm ends 11 Nov. free, Millbank, SW1 (017). 887 8000) O Pimico

culture. Tue-Sun 11am-5pm, ends 30 Aug. 62, conca/child £1. Earlham Road (01603-593199) OXFORD ASHMOLEAN MUSEUM Drawings: Claude Lorrain 1600-1682 Over 100 drawings covering every aspect

MUSEUM OF MODERN ART A Conversation Piece: John Murphy Julian Sarmento Collaboration of paintings, objects and installation, Tue-Sun 11am-Spm (Thu until 9pm), ends 4 Oct £2.50 (her Wed morn & Thu eve).

PENZANCE PENLEE HOUSE GALLERY & MUSEUM Walter Langley Major exhibition of the 19th-century painter who proneered the Newlyn Art Colony Mon-Sat 10 30am-4 30pm, Sun 2pmCLASSICAL

GUILDHALL The Tempest Musicians of the Globe in a masque concert performance with music by Purcell Tonight 7.30pm, £5-£30. Gresham Street. EC2 (0171-638 8891) St.Paul's.

Gibbons Plays Gershwin A Special Centenary Tribute from the fine Gershwirt pianist. Tonight 7pm. £8-£16 South Bank Centre, SE1 (0171-960 4242) BR/ Waterloo.

QUEEN ELIZABETH HALL Jack

WIGMORE HALL Anthony Hewitt Ptano recital taking in Janacek and Chopin Sonatas. Tonight 7.30pm. £6-£14. Wigmore Street, W1 (0171-935 2141) → Bond Street/Oxford Circus.

OPERA

LONDON HOLLAND PARK THEATRE Die Fledermaus Strauss' comic operetta in an Opera Holland Park production. sung in English. Tonight 7.30pm. £24, concs £18.50. Kensington High Street, W8 (0171-602 7856) ➡ High Street

DANCE NORTHCOTT THEATRE CWARL

Ballet Gwent: The Tempest Full length ballet interpretation of the island romance. Tonight 7.30pm, £9-£11. Stocker Road (01392-213161) LONDON LONDON COLISEUM The Reval

Ballet: Swan Lake Anthony Dowell's lush production set in Russia. Tonight (Yoshida/Sansom), 7.30pm, £10-£55, St. Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-632 8300) Leicester Square/Charing Cross.

PLYMOUTH Perry's award-winning tap show. Tonight 7.30pm. £10-£17. concs available. Royal

LITERATURE

Parade South (01752-267222)

LEDBURY POETS AT WORK I, II, III Poets Roz Goddard, Andrew Fusek Peters, Alicia Stubbersfield and Yusset produce a poem to a given theme over three sessions chared by Sarah Magune. Feathers Hotel High Street (01531-635266) Tonight 9pm, £3.

LONDON CELEBRATING MOORE: LITERARY EVENT Richard Cork and David Mitchinson discuss the new book, Celebrating Moore Works from the

Hampstead High Street NW3 (0171-794 1098) ← Hampstead, Tonight 7pm, £2. **COMEDY**

densy Moore Foundation. Waterstone's

AL MURRAY AT COMEDY CAFE The Pub Landlord performs his Edinburgh preview show, with Andrew Morrel, Dominic Holland, Terry Alderton, MC Kevin Gildea, Tonight Epm, Rivington Street, EC2 (0171-739 5706) Old Street, 52

ROB NEWMAN AT PLEASANCE THEATRE Edinburgh preview show from the former Mary Whitehouse Experience star. Tonight 8pm, Carpenters Mews. off North Road, N7 (0171-609) 1800/420 0180) ← Caledonian Road, £7.

PUNCHLINE COMEDY CLUB AT ARTEZIUM Stand-up from Neville Haven, Anvil Springstien, Shelagh Martin, Natalie Hayries Tonight 8pm, Bute Street, £8 adv, £9 door, concs £6 adv, £7 door. (01582-707100)

NORTHAMPTON JOHNNY VEGAS AT THE ROADMENDER The prince of pottery performs his new show, The Selling Out Tour Tonight Spm. £6 & £7. Ladys Lane of the artist's work. The Sat 10cm 4pm, (01604-604222)

CLUBS

BRIGHTON GORGEOUS AT THE HONEY CLUB Robin Stardust, Mike Gorgeous and Errol Russell play upliffing house. Tonight, 10pm-4am, £4 mems £3. Aing's Road Arches (01273-202807)

LONDON ULTIMATE B.A.S.E. AT THE VELVET ROOM Techno from Carl Cox Jim Masters and Trevor Rockliffe, Tonight 10pm-late, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-439 4655) Tottenham Court Road SR

EVENTS

CECYDON CROYDON SUMMER FESTIVAL Includes Croydon Camival, Croydon Jazz Festival, Croydon Film Festival, Music in the Gardens, Croydon Street Theatre Festival and the Croydon Arts Festival rounded off with Croydon's second Mela Croydon Summer Festival Various venues (0181-253 1030) 16-19 Jul.

LONDON QUEST FOR CAMELOT EXHIBITION Movies, myths and fite magic sword explored. Museum Of The Moving Image (MOMI) South Bank SE1 (0171-928 3535)

Waterlead The More Sun 10am-6pm (1887) adm. 5pm), ends 18 Nov. £6.25; student Sen 18 N £5.25, concs £4.50, under 5s free, fam-

OYFORD CLUB CULTURE Live event on the experience of clubbing in the 1990s.
Pegasus Theatre Magdaten Road (01865-722851) 8pm, ends 18 Jul, £5,

MUSIC

MASSIMO & MR DAN Innovative London big-beat outlit. Moles Club George Street (01225-404445) Tonight

SPEEDURCHIN, DOG TOFFEE Energetic punk outfit. Portland Arms. Mitchams Corner (01223-357268)

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LLAMA FARMERS, SEAFOOD, GEL Neo-grunge popsters headline. 100 Club Oxford Street W1 (0171-636 0933). Oxford Circus. Tonight 7.30pm, £5. ASIAN DUB FOUNDATION World dance pioneers. Greenwich &

Concert Halls Lee Road SE3 (0181-853) 4444) BR: Blackheath. Tonight 7,45pm, £10, concs £4 D'INFLUENCE Acid-jazzers who gave Shola Ama her big break. Jazz Café Parkway NW1 (0171-916 6060) → Carnden

Bank SE1 (0171-900 9292) Waterloo, Tonight 8pm, £10-£27.50. MYNTA Unusual mix of NY rap, Indian

Leicester Square Tonight Bpm, phone
 Leicester Square Tonight Bpm, phone

for prices. SUBHUMANS, ZOUNDS, THE SYSTEM Reclaim The Streets benefit with 1980s anarcho-punk headliners. and fellow veterans Zounds. University of London Union Malet Street WC1

MUSIC

dance band. The Fleace St. Thomas Street (0117-927 7150/cc 929 9008) Tonight 8pm, phone for prices.

LONDON MARCUS MILLER Rare live outing for top funk and hip-hop session bassist. Barbican Centre Silk Street EC2 (0171-638 4141) ↔ Barbican/Moorgate. Tonight

RAY GELATO GIANTS, BRUCE BOARDMAN'S BOOGIE BAND Hard swinging Vegas jazz and R&B outlit. Kew Gardens (Royal Botanic Gardens) (0181-940 1171) - Kew

Court Road. Tonight 9pm, Thu-Saf £15. Sun-Wed £12.50.

RICHARD RODNEY BENNETT/MARY CLEERE HARAN Stylish cabaret partnership perform shows entitled S'Wonderful and

trumper star. Support from vocalist Stacey Kent Ronnie Scott's Frith Street Wil (0171-439 (747) - Leicester Square. Tonight 9.30pm. £15, mems £4, NUS £8. (Mon-Thu), £15, mems £8 (Fri-Sat).

CATS Lloyd Webber's musical version of T S Eliot's poems. New London Theatre Parker Street, WC2 (0171-405 0072) ← Covent Garden/Holborn, Mon-Sai 7,45pm, mats Tue & Sat 3pm, £12.50-£32.50. O CHICAGO Ruthie Henshall stars in this hit Broadway musical.

THEATRE

WEST END

Ticket availability details are for today:

times and prices for the week: numino

times include intervals.

— Seats at all

prices 🕽 — Seats at some prices 🔾 ---

Wyndham's Theatre Charing Cross

Hoad, WC2 (0171-369 1736/cc 867

1111) O Leicester Square. Tue-Sat 8pm, mats Wed 3pm, Sat & Sun 5pm,

OAS YOU LIKE IT

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST

cartoon version of the fairy tale. Domin

2.30pm, £17.50-£32.50, 150 mins.

BLOOD BROTHERS Willy

iussell's musical melodrama. **Phoenix**

Theatre Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-369 1733) & Leicester Square.

BUDDY Musical biog-sho

4pm, £10.50-£29.50, 165 mins.

£9.50-£27.50, 90 mins.

able, 180 mins.

Adelphi Theatre Maiden Lane, WC2 (0171-344 0055) ← Charing Cross Mon-Sat 8pm, mats Wed & Sat 2.30pm, £16-£36 (inc booking fee). 130 mins. D CLOSER Superb study of contemporary sexual relationships from Dealer's Choice author Patrick Marber. Lyric Theatre Shaftesbury Avenue, W1

£5-£27.50, 140 mins.

Sloane Square/South Kensington Godzilla 6pm. Caroline Street, W6 (0171-416 6022) 9pm The Object Of My Affection Hammersmith Mon-Sat 7.30pm, 15pm, 5.15pm, 8.30pm Slx Days, mats Wed & Sat 2.30pm, £10-£32.50. Seven Nights 1.15pm, 3.45pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm Sling Blade 12noon, 3pm, 6pm, 9pm The Wedding Singer 2pm) GREASE Marissa Dunlop stars in

> HOW I LEARNED TO DRIVE Paula Vogel's drama about the incestuous relationship between a teenager and her uncle. Donmar Warehouse Earlham Street, WC2 (0171-369 1732)

● AN IDEAL HUSBAND

£29 50, 165 mins.) AN INSPECTOR CALLS Stephen Daldry's widely-acclaimed production of J B Priestley's thriller Garrick Theatre Charing Cross Road.

A KAT AND THE KINGS

A LETTER OF RESIGNATION Hugh Whitemore's p.a., about the Protumo affair and pointnorably Savoy Theatre Strand WC2 Charing Cross Embankment, Mon-Sal

O THE MERCHANT OF

7 30pm, mats Sal 2 30pm, ends 8 Aug, £10-£14 conc. available O WHISTLE DOWN THE WIND Lloyd Webber's new musical based on the film of the same name. Aldwych Theatre Aldwych, WC2 (0171-416 6003 cc 836 2428) Holborn. Mon-Sat 7 30pm, mats Thu & Sat 3pm, \$10-£32.50, 120 mins.

James Surrealist work from this major patron of contemporary art's collection. Mon. Tue, Thu-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2pm-5pm, ends 26 Jul. free. Church Street (01273-290900)

(0117-929 9444)

Romeo And Juliet Open-air Shakespeare in picturesque surroundings, Mon-Sat 7.30pm, ends 1 Aug. £9, concs £6. Huntingdon Road (01223-

West Road (01223-504444)

MINERVA STUDIO THEATRE Loot Joe Orton's farce about the aftermati of a bank robbery. Mon-Sai 7,45cm, mais

(01243-781312) **GUILDFORD** YVONNE ARNAUD THEATRE Alarms & Excursions - more plays than one Michael Frayn's new comedy about a dinner party which is interrupted by mysterious messages. Mon-Thu

READING Order Ray Cooney's larce. Tue-Sal 8.15pm, mats Sat 2-15pm, ends 15 Aug £20 95-£31 95, including meal, Sonning

The Tempest Adrian Noble directs Strakespeare's romance drama. In rep. fonight 7 30pm, ends 29 Aug. £5-£37. Waterside (01789-295623)

7.30pm, ends 5 Sep. 1:5-1:31, Waterside (01789-295623)

BRIGHTON MUSEUM & ART

GALLERY A Surreal Life: Edward

7pm, Sun 12noon-6pm, ends 23 Aug. free. Narrow Quay (0117-929 9191)

FITZWILLIAM MUSEUM Four (01223-332900)

NATIONAL GALLERY Masters Of Light: Dutch Painting From Utrecht In The Golden Age Dutch paintings from the 17th century demonstrating unique use

Twenty-three paintings and drawings by the Venetian artist. Mon-Sal 10am-6pm (Wed until 8pm), Sun 12noon-6pm, ends 11 Oct, free. Trafalgar Square, WC2 (0171-839 3321) ← Charing Cross. Leicester Square.

Critical Mass: Antony Gormley Sixty

10am-8 30pm), ends 4 Oct. £6, concs £5. NUS £4, child 12-18 £2 50, child 8-11 £1 Burlington House, Piccadilly, W1

ecent self-portrait etching. Ends 26 Jul.

SAINSBURY CENTRE FOR VISUAL ARTS Spain is Different: Post-Pop And The New Image in Spair icons of confemporary Spanish art and

Sun 2pm-4pm, ends 13 Sep free Beaumont Street (01865-278000) conca £1 50, child free Pembroke Street (01865-722733)

4 30pm, ends. 30 Aug. £2 £1 concs. Morrab Read (017.46 363625)

various times phone for details.

9pm-2am, £4, concs £3.50, mems £3.

Tonight 8pm, £3, concs £2.

Town. Tonight Bpm, £10.50-£12. BLUES BROTHERS BAND Not a mobile for once, but the original movie band, with MGs Steve Cropper and Donald "Duck" Dunn, and special guest
Eddie Floyd Royal Festival Hall South
Bank SE1 (0171-960 4242) BR/

10.00

vocals, African rhythms and Swedish folk. The Spitz Commercial Street E1 (0171-392 9032) ← Liverpool Street. Tonight - (8 cold) 9pm, £7. NEW COOL COLLECTIVE Latin breakbeat-driven ensemble. Mezzo Wardour Street W1 (0171-314 4000)

(0171-580 9551) ← Goodge Street. Tonight 7.30pm, £5.

JAZZ, WORLD, FOLK BRISTOL SEVEN LITTLE SISTERS Folk-rock

7.30pm, £10-£20.

Gardens Tonight 7pm, £18 MOSE ALLISON TRIO Veteran Mississippi-born swinging balladeer and pianist. Pizza Express Jazz Club Dean Street W1 (0171-439 8722) ◆ Tottenham

Pennies From Heaven. Ptzza on the Park Knightsbridge SW1 (0171-235 5273) Hyde Park Corner, Tonight 9,15pm & 11.15pm, £18, adv £16. TERENCE BLANCHARD BIGH NY

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976-998MHz FM)

6.30 Clive Warren.

.00 Sarah Kennedy. 7.30 Wake

2.06 Jimmy Young: Talking to the

sople who make the news. 2.00

d Stewart. 5.05 John Dunn: After

00, John talks to guest Richard

orsley, director of the Carnegie

buntry music, this week's most-

test country music news. 8.00

3.00 Their Long Voyage Home.

teve Madden. 3.00 - 4.00 Alex

aul Jones. 9.00 Stand Up 2

0.30 Richard Allinson. 12.05

.30 The Russ Abbot Show.

ayed singles in America, and the

ird Age Trust. 7.00 David Allan:

p to Wogan. 9.30 Ken Bruce.

8-90.2MHz FM)

ADIO 2

IADIO 3

i**.00** On Air.

30.2-92.4MHz FM)

LOO Masterworks

1.00 The Piano.

5.00 in Tune.

1.45 Music Machine.

tLOO Sound Stories.

0.30 Artist of the Week.

2.00 The BBC Orchestras.

7.30 Performance on 3. Peter

Symphony Orchestra/Nicolae

9.15 Postscript. Four commis-

Petrushka (1947 version).

by Brendan Kennelly.

SKY MOVES SCREEN 1

SKY MOVIES SCREEN 2

(87448). 12.00 Salt Water Moose (1996) (28326). 2.00 Arrivederck, Babyl (1966)

(19061). 4.00 Hollywood Cavalcade

(1939) (8332), **6.00** Salt Water Moose (1996) (65483535), **7.40** US Top Ten

(345852), 8.00 The Man Who Captured

Eichmann (1996) (38142), 10.00 Strange

Days (1996) (46274500), 12.25 Desires of

Call Giri (1995) (384833). 3.30 - 6.00 Eat

4.00 Old Gringo (1989) (2880806). **6.00** Steel Magnolias (1989) (2475968). **8.00**

(1985) (2192326). 1.40 Buil Durham (1988)

K-9 (1989) (2470413). 10.00 The Hand

(1981) (6261719). 11.45 A Nightmare on

Firm Street Part 2: Freddy's Revence

\$27475), 3.00 Two Minute Warning (-976) (6829123), 4.50 Close.

8.00 The A-Team (8706239). 9.00 Reel

Shoe Dieries (2989245), 11.00 Films: The

Beverly Hills Bordello (185949), 1.30 (talian Stripping Housewives (3942369), 2.00 Real Stories of the Highway Patrol (3351982), 2.30 Cops (337007), 3.00

Film: Parasite (1982) (9646678). 5.00 -

4.90 The Dicemen (9537061). 4.30 Top Sergues (9533245). 5.00 First Fights

(\$20805). **5.30** History's Turning Points (\$45097). **6.00** Animal Doctor (\$441210).

6.30 Dawn of the Dragons (7131603).

6.00 The A-Team (4324497).

DISCOVERY CHANNEL

Boys Next Door (1985) (3051061). 1.00

wives (2807697). **10.30** Red

Stories of the Highway Patrol (4740332).

9.30 Cops (7867790), 10.00 Italian Strip

Innocence (1997) (1640123). 1.55 Co-ed

a Bowl of Tea (1989) (135833).

SKY MOVIES GOLD

TAMBAR 12

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BRAVO

Donohoe (piano), Bournemouth

Moldoveanu Dutilleux: Mystère de

l'instant. Rachmaninov: Piano Con-

certo No 3 in D minor. Stravinsky:

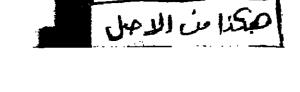
sioned poems blending words and

sound. 4: "The Man Made of Rain"

9.35 In the Twilight. A selection of

i2.00 Composer of the Week:

№ Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert.



THURSDAY RADIO

RADIO CHOICE

L30 Kevin Greening and Zoe Ball: he best new music. 9.00 Simon layo: Topical gags, topical games, opical tunes. Fax the programme n 0645 110100, 12.00 Jayne Midlemiss. 2.00 Mark Radcliffe. 4.00 paratively benevolent one, and rave Pearce: Featuring today's that its dismantling in the years lost Wanted chart, Newsbeat at after WWII was a fairly civilised 45, and the Mix at 6.00. 6.30 process. The Empire Warriors teve Lamacq - the Evening ession. 8.30 Live Music Update: (8pm R4) shows what a starryeyed view of things this is, teve McKenna presents the through the testimony of men askly look at the live music scene who fought Communists in .40 John Peel. 10.30 Mary Anne Malaya and the Mau Mau in obbs. 1.00 Charlie Jordan. 4.00 Kenya. This week, it focuses on

BRITAIN HAS ALWAYS flattered the Malayan insurrection itself that its empire was a comsmall-scale affair, but here emerging as something much bigger and nastier. Trevor Phillips's (right) science and technology chat-show. The Material World (4.30pm R4) looks at the holy grail of nuclear science - the prospect of generating fantastic quantities of "clean" power through fusion. ROBERT HANKS

Choice, above. 5.00 PM.

5.57 Weather.

6.30 Booked!.

from the first night.

6.00 Six O'Clock News.



Debussy's noctumal songs sung by Dawn Upshaw (soprano) with James Levine (piano). 10.00 Music Restored, Lucie Skeaping introduces a studio session by the Canadian bass viol duo Les Voix Humaines, who play music by two French Baroque masters of the instrument, Marin Marais and his teacher Sainte-Colombe. 10.45 Night Waves. Paul Allen profiles the internationally acclaimed Chicago-based Steppenwolf Theatre Co as they open in London with The Man Who Came to Dinner. 11.30 Jazz Notes. 12.00 Composers of the Week: William Byrd and Thomas Tallis. (R)

1.00 - 6.00 Through the Night. RADIO 4 (92.4-94.6MHz FM) 6.00 Today. 9.00 A Hard Act to Follow. 9.30 Dedicated to... (R) 9.45 Serial: A Boy at the Hogarth 10.00 NEWS; Woman's Hour. 11.00 NEWS; Crossing Continents. 11.30 No Commitments. 12.00 NEWS; You and Yours. 12.57 Weather. 1.00 The World at One. 1.30 Puzzle Panel 2.00 NEWS; The Archers. 2.15 Afternoon Play: Just You, Me and a Glitterball 3.00 NEWS; Call You and Yours (0171) 580 4444. 3.30 A View with a Room, 3.45 Ways with Words. 4.00 NEWS; Law in Action.

4.30 The Material World. See with the challenge of stepping into someone else's shoes. 10.00 The World Tonight. 10.45 Book at Bedtime: Setting the World on Fire. Simon Russell 6.25 Party Political Broadcast. Beale reads Angus Wilson's social comedy about postwar aristocracy. 7.00 NEWS; The Archers. theatre, architecture and anarchy. 7.15 Front Row. After its hit produc-Abridged by Neville Teller (9/10). tion of Carousel, the National 11-00 On Baby Street. A six-part Theatre returns to Rodgers and series of Julie Balloo and Jenny Hammerstein with a new staging of Eclair's comedy drama about three Oklahoma. Francine Stock reports mothers living in the same street. 3: A holiday in Wales nearly ends in disaster for Robert and Geraldine. 7.45 Under One Roof: School's Yvette decides Clinton is not for Out. By Wendy Lee, based on the her. With Frances Barber, Hugh original story by Michele Hanson. Ross, Tilly Vosburgh, Linda Robson Chloe's school career is over and and Graham Fellows. everyone but Gillian is in a holiday 11.30 in the Noise. 12.00 News. 12-30 The Late Book: Every Secret Thing. (R) 12.48 Shipping Forecast.

mood - she has to face up to summer and the terrors of her bikini line. With Paola Dionisotti and Edna Dore. Director Tabitha Potts (4/5). 8.00 NEWS; The Empire Warriors. 1.00 As World Service. At the end of the Second World 5.30 World News. War, Britain looked forward to 5.35 Shipping Forecast. peace. Yet within a few years, 5.40 Inshore Forecast. British soldiers found themselves 5.45 Prayer for the Day. once more on active duty. The 5.47 - 6.00 Farming Today. first of two programmes presented by Dr David Anderson examines RADIO 4 LW the military aggression in Malaya (198kHz) after the war. See Choice, above. 9.45 • 10.00 Daily Service. 12.00 8.30 The Week in Westminster. 12.04 News Headlines; Shipping Forecast. 5.54 - 5.57 Shipping Boris Johnson of the Daily

Telegraph takes a look behind the Forecast. 11.30 - 12.00 Today in Parliament. scenes at Westminster. 9.00 NEWS; Hotlinks. Jez Nelson **RADIO 5 LIVE** looks at the future of transport. (693, 909kHz MW) 9.30 A Hard Act to Follow. The 6.00 The Breakfast Programme. fifth of eight programmes in which 9.00 Brian Hayes.

1.00 The Open. 8-00 Gower's Cricket Weekly. Cricketing gossip with David Gower and his guests. Have your say on 0500 909693.

9.00 Inside Edge. Rob Bonnet with the programme that looks at the issues behind the sporting headlines 10.00 Late Night Live. With David Mellor. Including the day's sports round-up at 10.30, a late night news briefing at 11.00, and 11.15 The Financial World Tonight. 100 Up All Night 5.00 - 6.00 Morning Reports.

CLASSIC FM (100.0-101.9MHz FM) 6.00 Michael Mappin, 8.00 Henry Kelly. 12.00 Requests 2.00 Concerto: Saint-Saens: Piano Concerto No 2 in G minor. Philippe Entremont, Philadelphia Orchestra/Eugene Ormandy, 3.00 Jamie Crick. 6.30 Newsnight. 7.00 Smooth Classics at Seven. 9.00 Evening Concert. 11.00 Alan Mann 2.00 Concerto. 3.00 - 6.00 Mark

VIRGIN RADIO (1215, 1197-1260kHz MW 105.8MHz FM) 7.00 Jonathan Ross. 10.00 Russ Williams. 1.00 Nick Abbot. 4.00 Robin Banks/FM only Ray Cokes from 6.45pm. 7.30 Ray Cokes. 10.00 Mark Forrest, 2.00 Peter Poulton. 5.00 - 7.00 Jeremy

WORLD SERVICE (198kHz LW) 1.00 Newsdesk. 1.30 Westway. 1.45 Britain Today. 2.00 Newsdesk. 2.30 Composer of the Month. 3.00 Newsday, 3.30 Focus on Faith. 4.00 World News. 4.05 World Business Report. 4.15 Sports Roundup. 4.30 The World Today (0430-0700)/Insight (SW 5875kHz only). 4.45 Off the Shelf: Music from the Past (SW 5875kHz only). 5.30 Outlook (SW 7235kHz only). 5.55 - 6.30 Science View (SW 7235kHz only).

TALK RADIO 6.30 New Talk Radio Breakfast Show. 9.00 Scott Chisholm. 12.00 Lorraine Kelly. 2.00 Tornmy Boyd. 4.00 Peter Deeley. 7.00 Anna Raeburn. 9.00 James Whale. 1.00 lan Collins and the Creatures of the Night 5.00 - 6.30 Early Show.

INDEPENDENT PURSUITS

CHESS

CONTROL OF the centre, they tell us, is a good thing to aim for, but it takes courage to give up an important part of your king's shelter in exchange for central control, as Black did in this game.

The opening was a struggle between White's attempt at orthodoxy and Black determination to go his own way. With 6... Ne7, instead of Nf6. Kengis ensured that play would develop in original fashion.

The first critical moment came after 11...Nxc5, when 12.Rd1 looks the most natural reply. By playing 12 b4 and allowing Ne4 and Rc1. White allowed unpleasant pressure against his e-pawn. It is difficult to guess whether 14.Ne5 and 15.Bxe4 was all part of White's plan, or desperate improvisation. Presumably after 15...dxe4 he intended 16.Rd1, but Black's 15...fxe5! changed the game's complexion. Black's king looked draughty after 16.Bxh7+ but his central control was too strong for White to take advantage.

White rejected 23.Bxf5 exf5, when threats such as f4 and Qh3 give Black a winning attack. As the game went, Black's powerful centre pawns laid the basis for a devastating attack on the white king.

White: O Korchagin Black: E Kengis Tallinn 1998

1 d4 e6 18 QbI e4 2 c4 b6 19 Bg6 Qd7 20 Bh5 Rf5 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 Qc2 Bb7 **21** h4 d4 5 a3 Bxc3+ 22 Bg4 Nd5 6 Qxc3 Ne7 23 Qb2 Nc3 7 Nf3 0-0 24 Raci Qc6 8 g3 d5 25 e3 Rf8 **9** Bg2 Nd7 **26** Kg2 e5 10 0+0 ය 27 h5 Bc8 11 dxc5 Nxc5 28 Bxc8 Qxc8 29 exd4 exd4 12 b4 Ne4 30 Rh1 Qg4 13 Oc2 Rc8 14 Ne5 f6 31 Be7 Rf7 **15** Bxe4 fxe4 32 Bd6 Qf3+ 16 Bxh7+ Kh8 33 Kh3 Rf5

White resigned

GAMBLING

17 Bg5 Rxc4

THE BRITISH love to bet on football matches. Say what you like about the World Cup (and everybody has), this is what excites armchair gamblers more than any other sporting event - following the action on television and getting their money on. Bookmakers and spread-betting firms reported record business. Did they make a profit? Well, some things in life are predictable, even if football matches are not.

No one got the right answer in the free roll competition offered by IG Index to name the winners and runners-up in the eight groups of teams, let alone the full results of the event for a prize of £1m. What upset the punters was the totally unexpected failure of Spain, favourite in its group, to qualify

The odds against predicting the first and second in a group were only 11-1. But if you multiply it out to cover all the possibilities in eight groups the figure, so I am told, came to 430 million. That is a touch unrealistic because you would hardly predict teams like Brazil to fail or Japan to qualify. Still, the insurance company which covered the firm's risk of paying out was pretty safe. Working back from the actual results of the eight groups, I.G. says the odds against predict-

The British were not all that patriotic. IG reported that there were a lot of sellers of England game, betting on football,

before the tournament started. It is a rare occurrence for a bookmaker. when England are playing, to be rooting for England to win, as they were against Colombia and Argentina.

The bookmaker William Hill reports that the event as a whole was equivalent to the betting on the Derby and Grand National combined. Small-time punters liked bets on England to win, and naming the first scorer. This was fine against Tunisia (2-0 and Alan Shearer) but not too good on the next game against Romania. Big punters, if they were foreign residents. could bet tax-free, and many did so, up to £200,000 a match. One astute British gambler had an £18,000 double on Arsenal for the league title and Brazil for the world cup, which stood to make him £544,000. I hope he had the prudence to lay-off on France, which gave him a big win whichever side

won the title. The biggest surprise was the low number of red and yellow cards. After the organisers' dire warning to players and referees against tackling from behind, this looked like a good thing, and the market went berserk. But in the event the bookings were in line with pre-tournament predictions. vith red cards just topping 20. Why did one of them have to come up in England's make-or-break match against Argentina? It's a funny old

out no brone 12,000 to 1. UK GOLD

(3554158). 10.30 The Sullivans (2993448). 11.00 Dalas (8455993), 11.55 Neichbours (9010429), 3.55 Dangerfield (5707871), 4.55 EastEnders (9922177), 5.30 Wowfabgroovy (9453055). 6.00 All Creatures Great and Small (7877177). 7.00 The Comedy Alterna tive: 200int4 Children (2243413) 7.40 Waiting for God (9221852). 8.20 Dad's Army (8797061), **9.00** Bugs (99299158), **10.05** Bottom (4953210), **10.45** The Comic Strip

9.00 Film: Gore Vidal's Billy the Kid (1989) (27653784). 11.00 Film: The Rounders (1965) (86967061). 12.30 Films Billy the Kid (1941) (71325017). 2.00 Film:

Diana Madill meets people faced 12.00 The Midday News.

SATELLITE AND CABLE

SATELLITE CHOICE

6.00 Magic Sticks (1987) (32887), **7.30** Dangerous Curves (1987) (42210), **9.00** The Princess Bride (1987) (27897), **11.00** Roseanne: An Unauthorized Blography (1994) (52412448). 12.55 Dangerous Curves (1987) (48479500). 2.30 Fiddler on the Roof (1971) (84759142). 5.25 The Princess Bride (1987) (84954622), 7.00 Roseanne: An Unauthorized Biography (87974). 10.30 Fair Game (1995) (32974993). 12.05 Alien Nation: Millennium (1996) (734982). 1.40 For Better or Worse (1996) (7805543), 3.10 - 6.00 Murderous Intent (1995) (55257386). 8.00 Arrivederci, Babyl (1966) (88535). 100 Hollywood Cavalcade (1939) 1513). 10.66 The War Lover* (1962)

THOSE GOOD PEOPLE at Euro- should line up against the World sport have been doing quite well and Olympic Champion Allen out of France lately, what with Johnson. Morocco's Hicham El live coverage of World Cup foot- Guerrouj set an astonishing new Tour de France. Live Athletics: of 3min 26sec dead - can he IAAF Grand Prix (6.30pm eclipse that mark tonight as Eurosport) goes across the so often happens when athletes channel again for athletics from are running at their peak, or Nice, where one of the highlights will Noureddine Morceli, the should be the men's 110m hur- Algerian former record holder. dles, an event in which Wales's be sufficiently piqued to run in-form Colin Jackson (right), even faster?

PETER CONCHIE



7.30 Arthur C Clarke's Mysterious Universe (9534974). 8.00 Operation in Orbit (8702413). 9.00 Shipwreck! (8895177). 10.00 Medical Detectives (2803871). 10.30 Medical Detectives (2992719). 11.00 Forensic Detectives (2888429) **12.00** First Flights (7580475), **12.30** Top Marques (9995291), **1.00** Wonders of either (1851123). 1.30 Wonders of Weather (3948543), 2.00 Close,

the current world record holder.

7.00 Tattooed Teenage Alien Fighters from Beverly Hills (34429). 7.30 Games World (1015142). 7.45 The Simpsons (57535). 8.45 The Oprah Wintrey Show (8932158), 9.00 Hotel (29185), 10.00 Another World (42448). **11.00** Days of Our Lives (59784). 12.00 Married with Children (59177). 12.30 M*A*S*H (6679087), 12.55 The Special K Collection (96489351). 1.00 Geraldo (9686974), 1.55 The Special K Collection (22496264). 2.00 Saily Jessy Raphael (2698023). 2.55 The Special K Collection (2911852), 3.00 Jenny Jones (3094852). 3.55 The Special K Collection (9985603). 4.00 The Oprah Wintrey Show (95993). 5.00 Star Trek: Voyager (2158). 6.00 The Nanny (7719). 6.30 Married with Children (8871). **7.00** The Simpsons (3887). **7.30** Real TV (4055), 8.00 America's Dumbest Criminals (2535), 8.30 Seinfeld (8142). 9.00 Friends (9177), 9.30 Friends (92326), 10.00 E R (31239), 11.00 Star Trek: Voyager (43177), 12.00 Nash Bridges (39833), 1.00 - 7.00 Long Play (5541611).

SKY SPORTS 1 7.00 Sky Sports Centre (5791622), 7:15 World Wrestling Federation Shot Gun

Spenders (10887). 1.00 Full Throttle (86852). 1.30 Snooker (25516). 3.30 Centre (27102494). 4.30 Close. SKY SPORTS 2

(544697). **8.15** Sky Sports Centre (4662852). **8.30** Racing News (80158) 9.00 Aerobics - Oz Style (91210). 9.30 Futbol Mundial (36871). 10.00 Embassy World Eight-Ball Championships (29535) 12.00 Aerobics - Oz Style (84974), 12.30 Tales from the Premiership Hey, Big Sports Unlimited (56332). 4.30 Full Throttie (3158). 5.00 World Wrestling Federation Superstars (2790). 6.00 Sky Sports Centre (7351). 6.30 Tales from the Premiership One-Hit Wonders (8603). 7.00 Trans World Sport (65210). 8.00 Ford Football Special: The Story of the FA Cup (58974). 10.00 Sky Sports Centre (655535). **10.15** Tales from the Premiership One-Hit Wonders (386500). **10.45** Tight Lines (961500). #1.45 Sky Sports Centre (595697). 12.00 Futbol Mundal (20036). 12.30 Tight Lines (75307). 1.30 Sky Sports Centre (1343920). 1.45 Ford Football Special: The Story of the FA Cup (144562). 3.45 Tales from the Premiership One-Hit Wonders (276920), 4.15 Sports

7.00 Aerobics - Oz Style (7245448). 7.30 Sky Sports Centre (5423784). 7.45 Racing as (5476177), 8.15 Tales from the Premiership Hey, Big Spenders (2788429).

8.45 Sky Sports Centre (2686210). 9.00 Fish TV Americana Outdoors (7527177). 9.30 Fish TV Fishing Texas (9986158). 10.00 Golf Extra (5160535). 1.00 Major League Baseball - Game of the Week (3167784). 3.00 World of Super League with Eddie and Stevo (7671516). 5.00 Watersports World (6780516). 6.00 Inside the PGA Tour (4696719). 6.30 Showjumping 98 (4507871). 7.00 Tight Lines (1676326), 8.00 Rebel Sports (6790993), 8.30 Inside the PGA Tour (6606500). 9.00 Ford Goff USA - Deposit Guaranty Golf Classic (607/622), 11.30 Trans World Sport (7599968), 12.30 Stry Sports Centre (2208253), 12.45 Formula Three Racing (2480920). 1.15 Tales from the Premiership One-Hit Wonders (2487833), 1.45 Sky

Sports Centre (57050475), 2.00 Close SKY SPORTS 3 12.00 World Wrestling Federation Superstars (48192852). 1.00 Fish TV Americana Outdoors (65404852), 1.30 Fish TV Fishing Texas (48285516), 2.00 Greatest Moments in Sport (40844326). 2.30 Dickie Davies's Sporting Heroes (71434719), 3.30 Fastrax (91502622), 4.00 Ford Footbal Special: The Story of the FA Cup (409301771. 6.00 Rebel Sports (91508806), 6.30 Formula Three Racing (\$1599158), 7.00 Wheelbase (27749535), 8.00 Showjumping Grand Prix 98 (40920790). 8.30 Formula Three Racing (40843697), 9.00 Trans World Sport (27745719). 10.00 Bobby Charlion's Foot-

ball Scrapbook (27267061) 11.30 Close

EUROSPORT 7.30 Saling Magazine (91784). 8.00 Rowing (92803). 9.00 Cycling: Tour de France (58177). 11.00 Motors Magazine (22887). 12.30 Mountain Blke (32055). 1.00 Cycling: Tour de France (5088210). 2.10 Cycling: Tour de France (21267210). 4.30 Football: World Cup 98 (62974). 6.30 Athletics (586351), See Choice, left. 9.30

Cycling (98887). 11.30 Motors Magazine 7.00 Crossroads (2708239), 7.30 Neigh-

bours Omnibus (2020697). **7.55** EastEnders 3622697), 8.30 The Bil (2800784), 9.00 The Bill (2997264), 9.30 Stay Lucky Omnibus (89264448). 12-25 EastEnders 4780546). 1.00 All Creatures Great and Small (7784413), 2.00 Dallas (6087535). 2.55 The Bit (5732581). 3.25 The Bit

Presents... (12898790). 11.50 The Bil (3694448), 12.20 The Bil (3377456), 12.50 Live at Jonoleurs (9411678), 1.20 Equalizer (7560388). 2.05 The Equalizer (9374185). 2.50 - 7.00 Shopping at Night (34988982). LIVING 6.00 Tiny Living (3200061). 9.00 Rolanda (5889158). 9.50 Jerry Springer (407177). 10.40 The Young and the Restless (8798429). **11.30** Brookside (5229784). **12.00** Jimmy's (9218264). **12.35** Animal Rescue (93267622). 1.00 Rescue 911

(1848719). **1.30** Ready, Steady, Cook (3296326), **2.05** Rolonda (6465448), **2.55** Living It Upl (2258332). 3.55 Jerry Springer (2912974), 4.45 Tempest (8512448), 5.35 Ready, Steady, Cook (4251142), **6.10** Jerry Springer (9575968), **7.00** Rescue 911 (2796413), **7.30** Mysterres. Magic and Miracles (9128806). 8.00 Side Effects (2474239). 9.00 Films: No One Could Protect Her (1995) (2477326). 11.00 -12.00 Sex Life Down Under (1752968

Cimarron* (1931) (88933982), 5.00 Close.

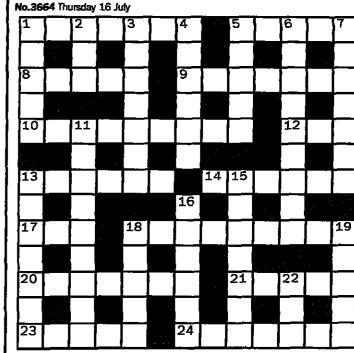
PUZZLE

CAN YOU find an eight-digit number of which the first digit is equal to the number of zeroes in the number, the second digit tells you the number of ones, the third digit is the number of twos, and so on? Then try it with a nine digit numher (Answers tomorrow)

Answer to yesterday's puzzle: It hides seven US presidents: mADAM Spilled salMON ROE on her POLKa-dot dress; bu'l AFTer WASHING TONight and some therapeutic LINT ON it, I am sure it will restore its basiC LEVEL

CONCISE CROSSWORD

AND texture.



REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

BBC N WRELAND As SBC1 London except: 6.30 - 7.00 Newstre 630 9.35 Town Challenge 10.20 Film: The Cowboy Way 12.05 Film: 48 Hrs 1.40 - 6.00 Joins BBC News 24

SCOTLAND 6.00 News 6.30 - 7.00 Reporting Scotland Weather 8.00 Feeling Good 8.30 The Beechgrove Garden 9.00 - 9.05 Party Political Broadcast by the Scottish Conservative Party WALES 6.30 - 7.00 Wales Today 11.20 Jun: 48 Hrs 1.00 - 6.00 BBC News 24

ENGLIA As Cariton except: 10.20 Angle News and Weither (2324871). 10.25 Justice of the Land (7752993). 11.25 Lustice of the Land (7752993), 11.25
-Blue Heelers (2699910), 12.20 Angla
News and Weather (4144887), 1.00
Dinosaurs (82944), 1.30 Home and Away
(5987), 2.00 The Jerry Springer Show
(2731587), 3.20 Angla News (1540332)
-5.50 Shortland Street (5654245), 8.00
Home and Away (440326), 6.25 Angla
News (52245), 8.55 What's On (839061),
18.03 Th News; Weather (208516),
18.33 Angla News and Weather
(37342), 18.45 The Road Show
(298933), 11.15 Go Fisting (293806),
11.45 Midnight Caller (431121), 12.45 The Jerry Springer Show (3369833), **1.30** Trainsporters (61388), **2.30** Planet Mirth (463389), **2.55** 3D (4895456), **3.25** The Chart Show (3857253), **4.15** Vanessa (4008678), **4.50** Nightscreen (2557475). CENTRAL

CENTRAL
As Cartton except: 10.20 Central
News (7705852). 12.20 Central News
and Weather (4144887). 12.30 ITN News;
Weather (50326). 1.00 A Country Practice
(82644). 3.20 Central News (1540332).
5.10 Shortland Street (5654245). 6.00
Home and Away (440326). 6.25 Central
News and Weather (521245). 6.55 Liteline
(839061). 10.35 Central News, Weather
and Travel Lipdate (373142). 10.45
Dharma and Greg (286933). 11.15 Friday
Night Fever (293306). 11.45 Ste in Bed
with Medianer (538332). 12.20 Tales from
the Crypt (6337369). 4.10 Jobinder
(9534524). 5.20 Asian Eye (8466253).
HTV WALES

HTV WALES
As Cartton except: 10.20 HTV News
(7709852). 12.20 HTV News (4144887).
1.00 Shortland Street (82644). 1.30
Home and Away (59697). 2.00 The Jerry
Springer Show (2731581). 6.00 Home
and Away (440325). 6.25 Wales Toright
(315535). 7.30 It's My Life (603). 10.35
HTV News (373142). 10.45 Wales This HTY WALES

Week (296993). 11.15 3D (293806). 11.45 Swift Justice (431121). 12.45 The Jerry Springer Show (3369833). 1.30 Transporters (61388). 2.30 Planet Mirth (4693369). 2.55 3D (4696456). 3.25 The Chart Show (3857253). 4.15 Vanessa (4009578). 4.50 Nightscreen (2557475)

HTY WEST As HTV Wales except: 6.25 HTV
Wast Weather (244719), 6.30 The West
(719), 7.30 3D (603), 10.45 Crimestoppers
Special (296983), 11.15 West Eye View (293806). 11.45 Undercurrents (506158). 12.10 Public Morals (4245807). MERIDIAN

As Cariton except: 10.20 Meridian News and Weather (2324671). 10.25 Justice of the Land (7752933). 11.25 Blue Heelers (2699910). 12.20 Mendian News and Weather (144887). 1.00 Shortland Street (82644), 1.30 Home and Away (59697). 2.00 The Jerry Springer Show (2731581). 3.20 Mendian News and Weather (1540332). 5.37 Crimestoppers (173142). 6.00 Mendian Tonight (239). 6.30 Grass Roots (719). 10.35 Meridian News and Mendian Men 6.30 (3/ass Hoots (1/19), 10.39 wartual News and Weather (450622), 10.50 Film: Quicksand: No Escape (23846871), 12.45 The Jerry Springer Show (3369833), 1.30 Trainsporters (61388), 2.30 Planet Mirth

(4693369) 2.55 3D (4696456), 3.25 The Chart Show (3857253), 4.45 Vanessa (4009678), 4.50 ITV Nightscreen (91320185), 5.00 Freescreen (84369).

WESTCOUNTRY As Cariton except: 10.20 Westcountry News (7709852), 10.30 Westcourity News (770502). Pain: Children of the Dark (28640871).
12.15 Westcourity News (2784142). 1.00
Emmerdale (82644). 6.00 Westcounity
Live (31245). 10.35 Westcounity News (373142). 10.45 Richard Digance - for One Night Only (981239). 11.45 Street Legal (431121). 12.45 The Jerry Springer Show (3369833). 1.30 Trainspotters (61388), 2.30 Planet Mirth (4693369), 2.55 3D (4696456), 3.25 The Chart Show (3857253), 4:15 Vanessa (4009678). 4.50 ITV Nightscreen (2557475)

YORKSHIRE As Cariton except: 10.20 London Today (2324871). 10.25 Calendar News and Weather (2323142). 12.20 Calendar News and Weather (1144987) 1.00 Home and Away (25724055) 1.25 The Jerry Springer Show (9216055) 2.10 Emmerdale (3178806) 3.20 Calendar News (1540332) 5.40 News (702036) 5.55 Calendar (691852) 6.30 Tonight (719). 10.35 Calendar News and Weather

(373142), **10.45** YTV 30 (296993), **11.15** Get Real (293806), **11.45** Charlie Grace (431121), **4.20** Jobfinder (9563036). TYNE TEES

As Yorkshire except: 10.25 North East News and Weather (2323142). 12.20 North East News (4144887). 5.55 North East Weather (266806). 6.00 North East Tonight (31245), 10.35 North East News and Weather (373142), 10.45 20/20 (296993), 11.15 Out of Town (293806).

As Channel 4 except: 12.00 Ricki Lake (22055) 12.30 Sesame Street (58968), **1.00** Slot Merthvin (82626). **1.30** Collectors Lot (42990055). **1.50** Film: Collectors Lot (4299005), 1.20 Fight.
Destination Gobi (64864516), 4.30 Ficht.
Lake (516), 5.00 5Pump: Uned 5 (6719),
5.30 Countdown (968), 6.00 News
(995806), 6.10 Heno (149429), 7.00
Pobol y Cwm (829719), 7.25 Pryd o
Dafod (233887), 8.00 Jocars (5603) 8.30 Darlediad Gwleidyddol gan y Blaid Geidwadol (378500) 8.35 Newyddion (758697) 9.05 Designs on Your... Car (747887), 10.05 Big Women (6836500). 11.10 X-Rated Ricki (664581), 11.55 Tour de France (242448), 12.25 TV Oftal (8713104), 12.55 Michael Hayes (8307340) 1.50 Close.

DOWN

Primate (7) English novelist (5) In want (5) Trenchant (7) 10 Religious holiday (6.3) 12 Playing card (3) Morose (6) 14 Determine (6)

ACROSS

17 Encountered (3) 18 Type of hiscuit (6-3) 20 Foremost (7) 21 Claw (5) 23 Old magistrate (5)

24 Stain (7)

Group of related species (5) Cereal (3) Set of baby clothes (7) Come to the throne (6) Cleverly amusing (5) Church member (9) Cleanliness (7) 11 Uncomfortable (3-2-4) 13 Piece of Victorian embroidery Voter (7) 16 Chess piece (6) 18 Conduct (5) 19 Fish (5)

22 Hawaiian garland (3) Solution to yesterday's Concise Crossword:

ACROSS: 1 Calif. 4 Funnier (California), 8 Bizarre, 9 Liszt, 10 Cadre, 11 Tankard, 13 Roam, 15 Embryo, 17 Emetic, 20 Zany, 22 Scoffed, 24 Spain, 26 Atoll, 27 Inertia, 28 Payment, 29 Yacht, DOWN: 1 Cubicle, 2 Lazed, 3 Forgery, 4 Fiesta, 5 Nylon, 6 Instant, 7 Rated, 12 Amen, 14 Ooze, 16 Biology, 18 Mystery, 19 Contact, 21 Addict, 22 Stamp, 23 False,

and Chathair

To grade por seasons of the control
Sea office and services

THE THURSDAY REVIEW
The Independent 16 July 1998

igangs him !

THOMAS SUTCLIFFE

TELEVISION REVIEW

"TYE ALWAYS been told that you shouldn't go too far away for either your stock bull or your wife," said an old man in Cumbrian Tales (BBC2). "You want to know a little bit about their background, their

out of the romance.

Cumbrian Titles – a kind of fly-on-a-sheep version of The Archers – served as a surprisingly appropriate prelude to the first episode of Amongst Women (BBC2) – Adrian Hodges' adaptation of John McGahern's fine novel about an Irish widower, a man as embedded in grievance as a boulder sunk in clay. By contrast with Roddy Michael Moran stays close to home when taking a second wife – a woman younger than he is, but not young enough any more to have much choice about who she mairies Rose Beach.

THE SECRETS OF SLEEP (9pm C4 ngh) What do foetuses dream about? Or duckbilled platypuses? For both have loads of "rapid eye movement sleep" (or REM), the state of dreaming as do dogs, cats and every animal back to the dinosaur, as far as we can tell. Humans have bursts of REM every 90 minutes, but why do we dream? And is it biologically necessary? This engrossing new series begins with some students being deprived of their dream sleep, before we meet some narcoleptics, whose dreams keep breaking into their reality, and a rape victim who managed to intervene in her own

their background, their breeding." He was talking about his own wife here, but I think he knew he might wind up the townies with this implication that it all comes down to livestock in the end. He was probably aware toothis being a small village – that one of the main subjects of Patrick McCreanor's film had conspicuously ignored that pragmatic wisdom. Roddy, a local farmer, was just about to marry Ros, an advertising executive more familiar with dry white wine than dry stone walls. I think the locals might take a slightly dim view of Ros's London ways, which included a gossipy wine-bar session with her girthrends in which she detailed, with more candour than was strictly necessary, how the proposal had immediately been followed by a celebratory "shag" ther own account she was longing to leave Soho and its work pressures behind for the country life – a dream McCreanor put into cautious perspective, first by cutting to a local shepherd whose gripes about his job offered a bucoilc version of career stress, and later by editing parties") hard up against Roddy's realism: "It's not all just a big party, there's alveys work to be done." Ros locked as if she knew exactly.

returned from Glasgow, a refugee from village life who brings something less cramped and fearful into the Moran house, particularly for her new husband's children, whose love for their father is mixed with a dread of his self-righteous temper. She even sets about healing a long-standing feud with his absent son Luke, who has fled his father's bullying to work in London.

Amongst Women has nothing to recommend it but itself - because it doesn't offer any of the consolations that such tales of domestic tyramy sometimes contrive to scrape together; although it shows you the solidarity of Monan's oppressed children, it doesn't deliver much in the way of subversive humour and it doesn't even take refuge in the County Mayo scenery, which is drably domestic here rather than touristic. But, like the book, its observations are so precise and unhysterical (the direction won't take sides with any complicity in the close-ups) that it soon proves compelling. As Moran, Tony Doyle (who plays Quigley, a more comical patriarch, in Ballykiasungel) is excellent - letting you see that the rage and narrowness of Moran emerge from his own sorrows and fears.

So far, at least, the adaptation has excluded his past history with the IRA, an omission that removes an important element in his sense of himself as a betrayed and embattled man – but Caitra's compensates with his direction. After the family has gone out for the first time with their prospective step-mother the camera shows you the cho ones to be pushed aside by the car – a shot through with tells you that they will not be the ones to be pushed aside by the new arrival. Rose is a tactician who will marshal them in resistance against his dictatorship, even though that resistance is shot through with love. Moran is not a man to surrender easily to this benign siege against his fortified emotions – after he has cruely snapped at Rose for trying to soothe his wounded feelings over Luke, the best she can hope for in the way of contrition is his muttared "I suppose I should be sorry...". But in this dour engagement even that remembers contracted that man to the though sould be sorry..." But in this dour engagement even that

BBC

6.00 Business Breakfast (39535), **7.00** News (81451). **9.00** All over the Shop (R) (3009974), **9.20** Kliroy (S) (3214852), **10.00** Meet the Challenge (389103), **10.25** Style Challenge Clesskos (2468992), **10.55** Short Change (1583177), **11.00** News; Local News; Weather (5016790), **11.05** Pole to Pole (4584546), **11.55** News; Regional News; Weather (6164622), **12.00** Every Second Counts (63595), **12.30** Golf - the Open (38158), **1.00** News; Weather (15887697), **1.40** Neighbours (S) (T) (49337351).

2.05 **Qoif -- the Open.** Further British Open golf from the Royal Birkdale (S) (9063983).

6.00 News; Weather (T) (571).

6.30 Regional News. Regional news magazine (T) (351).

7.00 Watchdog: Value for Money. Vanessa Feltz looks at toe-cream makers, is that wise? Plus, the durability of household appliances (S) (3245).

7.30

8.30 The Hello Girls. More from our early Sixtles telephone exchange operators. Romi and Syvia decide to throw a surprise party for Chris (S) (T) (8500). 8.00 Changing Rooms. A Chingford dining-room and kitchen are made-over in this returning DIY show fronted by Carol Smillie and "Handy" Andy Kane (S) (T) (2983).

9.05 News; Regional News; Weather (T) (802581). 9.00 Party Political Broadcast by the Conservative Party (S) (T) (319061).

US). One of Hollywoods oldest plots - two hicks get mixed up in the big, bad city - gets a wittess and pointless reworking in this crass, dumb-ass comedy advanture. Woody Harrelson and Klefer Sutherland, who are both (yes, even Klefer) capable of much better than this, play rodeo riders from New Mexico who come to (666239).

1,20 **GHOIGS** 48 Hours (Walter Hill 1982 US). Eddle Murphy is released from jail for two days to help cop Nick Note catch Murphy's former partner-in-crime. See Film of the Day. below (S) (T) (822974).

1.00 Johns BBC News 24 (4478494), To 6.00am.

DOCUMENTARY OF THE DAY

3.30 Beautiful Things. Unusual jewsilery (R) (3249968).

3.35 Children's BBC: Pingu (R) (3248239). 3.40 Playdays (6321661). 4.00 Popeys (R) (271177). 4.10 The Littlest Pet Shop (S) (2700061). 4.20 Mr Wyrnl (R) (2369185). 4.35 Cartoon Critters (3084871). 5.00 Newsround (S) (T) (3932210). 5.10 Record Breakers (R) (6600351).

5.35 Neighbours. Madge grief (S) (T) (712852).

7.30 EastEnders. Albert Square misery. Grant tries to drown his sorrows. Mark and Ruth seem to be moving further apart (S) (T) (535).

8.48 The Record (S) (2113158). **9.10** Hawkeye (R) (3218210). **9.50** Cartoon (8237413). **10.00** Teletubbles (S) (82790). **10.30** Golf - the Open (S) (73622).

12.30 Working Lunch. (56500). 1.00 Golf - the Open (S) (1882516). 2.05 Wildlife on Two (R) (S) (T) (58604351). 2.35 Wildvision (R) (S) (8919516). 2.40 News; Regional News; Weather (T) (8916429). 2.45 Westminster (S) (T) (4916500). 3.25 News; Regional News; Weather (T) (1552177).

from the Royal Birkdale Golf Club. Southport, where from the Royal Birkdale Golf Club. Southport, where Tiger Woods (the Royal Birkdale seems to favour Americans) and Britain's Lee Westwood are expected to be among the front-runners. Nick Faldo, recently injured and suffering a poor patch of form, will also be taking part, if not lifting any silverware. With commentary from Peter Allies, Alex Hay, Mike Hughesden, Beverly Lewis, Gary Wolstenholme and

East. The emerging phenomenon of kidnapping within Britain's Chinese community (S) (T) (177).

8.00 Disaster. Examines the events of July 1989, when the tall engine of a United Airlines DC-10 blew apart at 37,000 feet, with 296 passengers on board (R) (9185).

8.00 The cover two a

8.30 All the Right Moves. The black arts of property valuation, and the pros and cons of turning an old pubinto a family home (S) (T) (6142).

9.00 EIDES and Rock from the Sun. Return of the fab allens-in-Ohio sitcom. See Sitcom of the Day, below (S) (T) (907852),

9.40

10.30 Party Political Broadcast by the Conservative Party (S) (736177). 10.35 Newenight (1) (330332).

11.20 Matchmakers. Meet Wille Daty, fretand's premier metchmaker (S) (209559).

Zone: Open University: Declining Citizenship (†) (19494).

1.00 Powers of the President (80104). 2.00 The Greats: Explorers 5 (72746). 4.00 World Cup French: The French Experience 1: 17 - 20 (83098). 5.00 Teacher Training: Computers Don't Bile: Getting Started 1/Getting Online 1 (4696185). To 5.45am.

BBC2

6.10 Problems with Ions (7800210). **6.35** Plants: Problems with Water (5335413).

7.00 Children's BBC: Taletubbles (S) (1756500), 7.25 Dink, the Little Dinosaur (1848535), 7.50 Get Your Own Back (R) (S) (T) (4402055), 8.15 Willy Fog (R) (T) (2435790), 8.25 William's Wish Wellingtons (R) (S) (9536871),

5.40 Nev

7.30 3D. Vintroc where 7.00 Emn they't Lady

Qoif - the Open. Sleve Rider Introduces highlights the day's play in Southport (S) (415177). 9.00 Imog comes mothe an uns Janus

10.05 Newsj Weather (T) (208516). (0.00 Party Political Broadcast by the Conservative Party (1) (264852).

swn and Country. Edward Windsor continues to sue his media career, gaining access to various ablooded properties along the Thames. Tonight's fination is The Royal Hospital. Chelsea, which is to riess open to all, of course - and Eddies guide is Duke of Edinburgh. In six parts. Oh good (296993). on Tonight (T) (373142).

11:15 The W 1:25 L! 1:25 L! Profiles 2:55 E; Best of Warehouse (293806), 11.4.5 Prisoner Cell Block 121). 12.4.5 The Jerry Springer Show (7147785), Ive at Jongleurs (R) (9179901). 1.55 Planet Rock (7544756). 2.25 Box Office America (3483123), Eyecatchers (4605104). 3.20 3D (19699104). 3.45 f British Motor Sport (16322562). To 4.10am.

6.00 GMTV (1213239).

(S.) 9.25 Ch

IPILITY Children of the Dark (Michael Switzer 1994 US). Disease-of-the-week TV movie has parents discovering that their daughters have a potentially fatal intolerance to sunlight. Hoy Dotrice, of all people, plays their doctor. What a waste of a fine actor (95168351).

12.20 Your Shout (4144887). 12.30 News: Wealher (50326). 1.00 London Today (82644). 1.30 The Jerry Springer Show (5428332). 2.45 Home and Away (939581). 2.45 Supermarket Sweep (R) (938852). 3.15 News (1550719).

3.25 Children's ITV: Tots TV (1487055), 3.35 The Riddlers (7948061). 3.45 Cartoon (3246871), 3.55 Zzzapi (7957177), 4.40 Captain Star (5286528), 4.40 Refrace (R) (T) (4881852), 5.40 Home & Away (S) (T) (5654245).

6.00 London Tonight. Regional news and weather update (T) (239).

nerdale. Lady Tara gets some bad news. That ve changed her kennel name? Who gets called / Tara, for goodness sake? (S) (T) (5413).

With this summer's Crime and Disorder Bill ducing night-time curfews, a look at one trial area re officers try to enforce a 9pm curfew (S) (T) (803).

Bill. A man dies and a paving stone is found ring his chimney. Boyden and Page attempt to put and two together (T) (7061).

8.30 Eye of the Storm. Freak weather caught on camcorder, including a flash flood in South Africa and Australian thunder storms (S) (T) (3528).

gen's Face. 3/3. Andrea Newman's sister saga so to a disappointing climax. Imogen and Amanda's er (Claire Bloom) is revealing family secrets when rexpected death upsets the applecart. Samantha s and Lla Williams star (S) (T) (9581).

10.00

4.05

Soxual Imporative (6994678). **5.00** Love Life (R) (S) (T) (75611). **5.30** Tour de Franco (6626833). To 5.55am.

Carlton

Children's ITVI Extreme Dinosaurs (8669974), 9.55 Judge Judy (4832210). 10.25 London Today (2323142).

9.00 IIII 29 Acacla Avenue (Henry Cass 1945 UK).
Perents Gordon Harker and Betty Balfour return
unexpectedly from their holidays and discover their
teenage children (Jimmy Hanley and Dinah Sheridan) up
to no good. From a play, and it shows (16785608).

7.00 The Big Breakfast (S) (T) (32149).

hannel

rs; Weather (T) (611784).

8.30 Videotech. Margherita Taylor with the latest charts and "gossip" (le. PR releases) from the pop music world (S) (719).

6.30

Hollyoaks. Come in Chester. Sol hides some information while Lewis begins to wonder who is telling the truth (S) (T) (531).

6.30

6.00 Tour de France. The cyclists pedal away the 228km between Cholet and Chateauroux (581).

5.30 Pet Rescuers. How to help chipmunks (S) (T) (968).

3.30 Watercolour Challenge (T) (697), 4.00 Fifteen to One (S) (T) (332). 4.30 Countdown (S) (T) (3078210), 4.55 Ricki Lake (R) (S) (T) (5555413).

1.45 1111 Trottie True (Brian Desmond Hurst 1949 UK). Bland cossie drama with Naughty Nineties musical hall artiste Jean Kent taking James Donald's aristocratic fancy (T) (20566852).

2.30

The Three Stooges (9282535), 11.00 Australia Wild (8968), 11.30 Powerhouse (9697), 12.00 Sesame Street (S) (22055), 12.30 Light Lunch (R) (S) (T) (36177), 1.30 Collector's Lot (15917887).

7.00

Channel 4 News; Weather. Including headlines 7.30pm (S) (T) (894351)

8.00 Moving People. A new series of, but what else is there to say about the experience of moving house? Tonight a Geordie stripper leaves home for the first time (5603). 7.50 Deadline 2000. How traditional farming in India is being eroded by new cropping systems (T) (399546).

8.30

Real Gardens. Carol Klein goes back to fresp out at the organic vegetable garden (T) (1210).

9.00 BIDIES The Socrets of Steep. Now three-part sories on the function and nature of sleep.
See Documentary of the Day, below (S) (T) (3351).

Big Women. 3/4. More from Fay Weldon's drama of Severties faminism. Seven years have passed since Zoe's cleath, and her teerage daughter, Satfron (Sophia Mylas) begins to investigate her mother's suicide. Meanwhile, Stephie has left Medusa and is running a radical feminist magazine with her lesbian lover (T)

11.05 X-Rated Ricki (T) (672500). **11.50** Michael Hayes (T) (306055). **12.45** Turkish Dolight (R) (T) (19562) **1.15** Painted Ladies (R) (T) (16475).

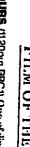
1.50

THIRD ROCK FROM THE SUN (9pm BBC2, right) On the subject of dreaming, the Solomons, the Ohlo-based sitcom extra-terrestrials, have just had their first dreams. Naturally they think that their brains are melting. This funny and inventive comedy returns with a double episode, with Dick (the wonderful John Lithgow) poised to marry Dr Albright (Lithgow's equally wonderful comic foil, Jane Curtin). Unhappy at this turn of events, the Big Giant Head sends Dick the perfect wife, in the shape of Roseanne. If this suggests that

SITCOM OF THE DAY

FILM OF THE DAY

48 HOURS (1120pm BBC1) One of director Walter Hill's more human movies, too early in his career for his ultimately sterile action-for-action's soke credo to have taken over completely—its dreadful sequel, Anollier 48 Hours, is a good example. Two other things were going in this film's favour. It was nailed to a simple pilot (rabid housite cop Nick Nolle is "learned" with wise-cracking black convict Eddie Murphy (right), released from prison for 48 hours to help track down Murphy's ex-partner in crime). And then there is Murphy himself. The Saturday Night Live stand-up's movie debut has a zing and freshness that has slowly but surely gone out of his subsequent performances.





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(S) (T) (1705790). 7.30 Milkshakel (S) (9924852). 7.35 The Wind in the Willows (R) (4142622). 8.00 Havakazoo (S) (3749784). 8.30 Dappledown Farm (R) (374905). 9.00 Woodlend Tales (R) (S) (T) (3835535). 9.30 Russell Grant's Postcards (9227622). 9.35 The Opreh Winfrey Show (S) (618516). 10.25 Sunset Beach (S) (T) (8607448). 11.10 Leeza (R) (S) (6333413). 12.00 5 News et Noon (S) (T) (3742871). 12.30 Family Affairs (S) (T) (388326). 1.00 The Bold and the Beautiful (T) (1704061). 1.30 Sons and Daughters (3388697). 2.00 100 Per Cent Gold (S) (5341968).

Open House with Gloria Hunniford. Paul Daniels tries to work some magic on devilme Channet 5. He's joined by percussionist Evelyn Glennie (S) (8294581).

3<u>,</u>30

1312 Column South (Frederick de Cardova 1952 US) Civil War soldier Audie Murphy tries to prevent some Indians being massacred in this so-so yarn (3764448).

6.00 100 Per Cent Challenge, More Wasternind and Krypton Factor ex-winners try their hand at Channel 5's hostless cross-examination (S) (1765852). 5.05 The Oprah Winfrey Show. Actor Carroll O'Connor talks about his life after his son's suicide (S) (8669210).

Family Affairs. Pete refuses to let Duncan see the twins. Eddle steals Angus's bank details (S) (T) (1862332)

7.00 5 News, including First on Five. News on the move (S) (T) (5345784).

7.30 Secret Lives. The wildlife of the remote Karnchetka peninsula on Russia's eastern seaboard (R) (S) (T) (1858516).

6 6 €

8.00 Water Rats. Sydney Herbour cop action. Holloway and Goldie stake out some ritzy waterfront homes which they believe have been tergeted for burglary, and arrest a youth toting a police-Issue gun (2320871).

9.00

US). Brian Dennelty has storred in so many TV movies that he could probably direct one in his sloep:—so great credit to the hard-working actor that he didn't in this, his first film behind the camera. He directs himself playing an alcoholic lawyer who takes on the case of his ex-girlfriend's daughter, who is charged with murdering her father. Bonnie Bertolia co-stars (S) (T) (72022149).

10.50 Hotline. Soft poin. A wealthy man and his young wife decide to use their newly hirert gardoner to help her to conceive a child (6755697).

11.55 The Jack Docherty Show (S) (9786177) 12.05 Live and Dangerous (S) (58251765). 4.40 Prisoner Cell Block H (1168746). 5.30 100 Per Cent (R) (S) (3777456). To 6am 11.25 Cornedy Store Special: Phill Jupitus. The chuldy one from Never Mind the Buzzeacks lalks to Arthur Smith

TELEVISION GUIDL BY GERARD GILBERT